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Arab summit looks set to revive demand for independent Palestinian state

Hussein throws his weight behind PLO

Hussein: support

Arafat is star of the summit

ALGIERS, June 8, (Agencies): Jordan's King Hussein gave unconditional support today to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and asked the oil-rich Arab states to give massive subsidies to the continuing struggle against Israel.

In a major policy statement on the second day of the Arab summit, Hussein disclaimed any ambition to restore Jordanian rule in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. He insisted that the PLO must represent the Palestinian people at any future international peace conference.

Hussein was willing to back demands for Palestinian statehood, even if this did not lead to the international peace conference which all Arab states support as the first step towards a settlement.

Blame

Speaking behind closed doors to the leaders of the PLO and 20 Arab nations, Hussein endorsed some aspects of US Secretary of State George Shultz's latest Middle East peace plan, but declared:

"The United States has no Middle East policy other than support for Israel. The US approach to the problem of the Arab-Israeli conflict is, unfortunately, based on a policy of crisis-management."

"The United States takes no political steps or initiatives there; there has been a recent upturn in the region taking on the aspect of a war."

He outlined his own under-

Therefore, the King argued, the Shultz plan was launched because the Palestinian intifada (uprising) in the West Bank and Gaza was taking on the aspect of a "Palestinian war against Israel."

"As American action usually ends with the passing of the crisis," Hussein declared, "we should support the uprising in an organised and effective manner and ensure that it continues until it achieves its objectives."

Urged

Copies of Hussein's comments were made available by the Jordanian delegation.

Hussein urged Arab leaders to give their unanimous support to the uprising "through internationally acceptable political action, in order to win the world over to our side and so that the Palestinian people may feel that their legitimate struggle will lead, God willing, to success and victory."

Hussein, who has been lukewarm in his support for the PLO in the past, repeatedly stressed his wholehearted acceptance of the organisation as "the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

He said Jordan was prepared to form a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation at a future peace conference, but declared: "Jordan will not represent the Palestinian people at the conference, nor will it negotiate a settlement of the Palestinian problem on behalf of the PLO."

He outlined his own under-



Arafat (right) greets Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz. (Reuters wirephoto)

standing of the Shultz plan as evisaging United Nations invitations to the peace conference to be addressed to "all the parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the PLO."

In fact, the United States continues to oppose PLO admission to a peace conference.

It seemed, therefore, that this point was one of the Jordanian "reservations" on details to the

Shultz plan to which Hussein referred obliquely but which he did not spell out.

The PLO must be invited to the peace conference, he said, "since the Palestinian people must be active participants in the negotiations to determine their future."

Hussein stressed that the Shultz plan was not in any final form but continued to be negotiated in a dialogue with the

Soviet Union and invited Arab states "with a view to developing it so as to conform with the bases of the Arab position."

He complained that the oil-rich Arab states had failed to deliver about half the \$3 billion they promised in the "confrontation states" ten years ago.

"The Palestinian uprising necessarily requires support for the PLO and the confrontation states," he said.

He warned that Jordan may not be able to bear the financial burden involved much longer, saying "we in Jordan and in Syria are in need of sustained support to be able to withstand the aggressive and expansionist Zionist designs as long as the Arab-Israeli conflict continues."

Recognition

Hussein told the three-day summit last night with similar strong expressions of support for the Palestinians. Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, who is chairman of the summit, said the universal recognition and acceptance of the PLO was "the key to any settlement of the Middle East problem."

PLO chairman Yasser Arafat reiterated the PLO's determination to create a sovereign Palestinian state "with Jerusalem as its capital."

The summit looked set to revive Arab demands for an independent Palestinian state.

Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Khlifi announced today that Arab leaders have

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Syrians tighten Beirut security

BEIRUT, June 8, (Agencies): Syrian troops arrested six people in pre-dawn house raids in south Beirut today after a car bombing triggered a gunbattle between the Syrians and Iranian-backed Shiite militiamen, police reported.

Syrian troops today also searched cars and stopped vehicles parking near their sandbagged bunkers.

A police spokesman said the arrests were made in the seaside Ouzai district, where the car bomb exploded yesterday, killing three people and wounding 39, including two Syrian soldiers and two Lebanese policemen.

Two people were killed and one was wounded in a shootout between Syrian soldiers and radical Shiite gunmen of Hezbollah, minutes after the blast.

The arrests were made "in connection with the bombing and the gunfire," said the spokesman.

He refused to identify the suspects or give any details of the raids.

The shooting was the first clash between Hezbollah and the Syrians since 2,400 Syrian troops were deployed in south Beirut May 27 to end a three-week war between Hezbollah and its Syrian-backed Shiite rival, Amal.

The gunfire erupted when Syrian troops and Lebanese policemen cordoned off the scene

of the bombing and tried to stop a carload of Hezbollah gunmen approaching the site.

The Ouzai bombing came six days after another car bomb exploded in the West Beirut district of Bir Hassan.

A senior American official, meanwhile, said US Secretary of State George Shultz discussed international terrorism with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and offered to share information with him, during his visit to Damascus.

In a separate development, ABC News reported that American and Iranian officials were in contact recently over the possible release of foreign hostages held in Beirut.

ABC, quoting diplomatic sources, also said the contact was the "first movement" on the issue in 18 months.

But a State Department spokesman asked to comment on the report, said there have been "no contacts" and "no negotiations."

The network said as Syrian troops moved into worn-out Beirut's southern suburbs in May, American efforts to seek the hostages release were "re-activated."

These efforts included a meeting between US Ambassador Vernon Walters and Assad and between Assad and Shultz.

ABC said Assad advised them to respond to initiatives by Iran and "contacts have now been made."

Plane crash-lands on highway

MANCHESTER, England, June 8, (AP): An American student was in critical condition today after a light plane crash-landed on a highway, ripping the roof off a car in which he and two other American students were riding, officials said.

Santiago Abascalos, 19, of Early 30s, suffered severe leg and arm injuries while riding as a passenger in the car and is in intensive care in Hope Hospital near Manchester, said Julie Higgins, a spokeswoman for the Greater Manchester Police.

The two other students, driver Stephen Bright, 30, and Huang

Wei, 27, were treated for cuts and bruises and released from the hospital. Higgins and hospital officials said.

The 25-foot (7.5-metre) plane, a French Brachard, was flying from Liverpool to Manchester when it ripped the top off the students' Citroen car before landing with its wheels down on a busy roadway near Manchester's central England. The car was destroyed.

The plane was attempting to make an emergency landing at Barton aerodrome, a private airfield used by non-commercial aircraft, police said.

Zia imposes daily prayers

ISLAMABAD, June 8, (Reuter): President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq has commanded civil servants to observe daily prayers, his first move to extend Islam in Pakistan since he sacked his government in part for not being good enough Muslims.

Officials today said heads of department had been ordered to lead the regular daily prayers during office hours and government employees would be punished for not praying.

The move renewed debate among diplomats here whether Zia was acting out of genuine faith, or whether trying to justify his May 29 dismissal of the government and National Assembly.

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Key

The answer, one diplomat said, holds the key to the immediate political future of Pakistan.

Zia, who seized power in a 1977 coup, dismissed his hand-picked Prime Minister, Mohammad Khan Junejo, accusing Junejo's government of corruption and fiscal incompetence, and failing to maintain law and order.

Zia also charged the government had failed to carry out his policies of extending Islamic laws and practices.

"If he is going to introduce



Zia: order

Islam by ordinance, then that would be a dramatic move," the diplomat said.

Pakistan's Muslims are split into different ethnic groups and religious sects, and it is unclear how a central Muslim legal authority could satisfy everyone.

Zia has promised new elections under the constitution within 90 days of his dismissal of the government.

Lip service

Yet for the past two days Zia has been besieged with Islamic clerical leaders drawing up a programme to extend Islamic law.

The Frontier Post newspaper quoting participants at the closed conference said Zia would announce within a week an ordinance concerning the imposition of Islamic law.

General Zia, throughout his tenure, has paid lip service to Islam. He has tried to cloak his military regime in Islam," said opposition leader Benazir Bhutto.

In his detailed speech, he also declared that for the first time, the Soviet Union would announce the presence or absence of nuclear weapons on naval ships or foreign port calls, if the United States and its Western allies did the same.

His 45-minute address was greeted by rousing applause, and many diplomats surrounded him to shake his hands.

Shevardnadze also invited representatives of the world community to witness the Soviet destruction of the first clusters of short- and intermediate-range nuclear missiles.

It said Shevardnadze made the comment during a meeting with Iraq's acting commander of the armed forces Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani on the second day of his three-day visit to Iran.

India may rethink N-policy

Pakistan supports terrorism: Rajiv

BONN, June 8, (Reuter): Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi warned today India could rethink its non-nuclear policy if it became clear that Pakistan possessed atomic weapons.

Rajiv, addressing a news conference at the end of a visit to West Germany, also accused Islamabad of hindering a peaceful solution in Afghanistan and supporting international terrorism.

"If Pakistan does have nuclear weapons and we feel it threatens us then we must look at our options again," Rajiv said.

Concern

But he added: "We have demonstrated our will not to make nuclear weapons, although we have had the capacity for some time. We are very clear that we do not want to go down that road."

Pakistan has denied Indian allegations that Islamabad has the capability of building its own nuclear weapons.

US officials have long expres-

sed concern that Pakistan may be engaged in a nuclear programme with possible military intentions. India has tested nuclear technology but says its programme is for purely peaceful purposes.

Asked whether India was responsible for tense relations with its neighbour, Rajiv retorted: "Today Pakistan has demonstrated very clearly two things — its intentions with its nuclear weapons programme and its support for terrorism."

"Pakistan is today perhaps the largest supporter of terrorism in the world," he said.

Rajiv said that since he came to power in 1984 India had presented Pakistan with more than 20 proposals for improving relations, but had received little positive response.

Pakistan, he added, was not adhering to the recently signed Geneva accords on the future of Afghanistan after the Soviet troop withdrawal is complete.

The accords include a pledge by foreign powers not to interfere

in Afghanistan.



Iran claims two bases destroyed

NICOSIA, June 8, (Reuter): Iran claimed today its Revolutionary Guards destroyed two military bases in mountainous northern Iraq.

The official Iranian news agency IRNA, monitored in Cyprus, said several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded by the irregulars, who seized weapons and munitions in the fighting in Arbil 250 miles (400 km) north of Baghdad.

Rapped

IRNA also reported Bulgarian Prime Minister Georgi Atanasov as saying today that the United States presence in the Gulf was responsible for the escalation of tension in the region.

Claims

But a Foreign Office spokesman and Iranian participants in the talks stressed the technical nature of the London talks without naming the officials involved or giving details on any benefits to be derived.

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UK-Iran talks may lead to a thaw in relations

LONDON, June 8, (Agencies): British and Iranian officials held talks today to settle claims on damage to their embassies that officials said could herald a new thaw in bitterly strained relations between the two countries.

The talks immediately raised hopes in Britain that a settlement would enable the government to seek Iranian help in securing the release of three British hostages held by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon.

Offer

The Evening Standard, a London tabloid, claimed the Iranians came with an offer to free British hostages to exchange for restoring full diplomatic relations and allowing Iran to reopen its arms-buying office in London.

Foreign Office officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, denied such demands were made at the morning talks, which they said were confined to the compensation issue.

British MPs oppose death sentence

LONDON, June 8, (AP): The House of Commons voted by a wide margin last night against restoring the death penalty, which was officially abolished in Britain in 1969.

By a 341 to 218 vote, lawmakers defeated a resolution that would have empowered juries to recommend capital punishment for any crime.

It was the eighth failure to reinstate the death penalty in 19 years. Most of the other attempts would have allowed imposition of the death penalty for specific crimes, such as murder.

All parties in the 650-member Commons allowed their members a free vote, and loud cheers filled the packed chamber when the result was announced after a 4 1/2-hour debate.

Roger Gale, a member of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative Party who launched the latest bid to restore the death penalty, argued that it would deter would-be murderers.

If the proposed amendment to the government's criminal justice bill "were to have saved one life,

that would be worth the risk," Gale said. "I do not seek vengeance. I do not seek punishment. I seek solely a deterrent."

But Home Secretary Douglas Hurd criticised death penalty advocates who "take a remarkably broad brush approach to a power of life and death."

The way to deal with violent crime is by strengthening the police, stiffening sentences, building prisons and, equally important, by reinforcing the self-confidence of all those who influence, or should influence, the young in this country away from violence," Hurd said.

Mrs Thatcher voted in favour of the death-penalty amendment.

The current drive to reinstate the death penalty got momentum from a newspaper survey in February. The survey showed that 43 of the 53 Conservative Members of Parliament elected for the first time in the June 1987 election favoured the return of hanging, the traditional British form of execution, for premeditated murder.

Fiji minister released

SUVA, Fiji, June 8, (AP): Former Foreign Minister Krishna Datt was released from custody today after two days of questioning about arms smuggled into the South Pacific nation.

Datt, who was foreign minister in the government ousted in a coup 13 months ago, was one of about 50 people rounded up after police this week seized weapons including rocket-launchers, bayonets, machineguns and

Soviet-made AK-47 rifles.

Fifteen people have been charged with conspiring to illegally import the weapons. Among those charged is Ratu Moses Tuisau, brother-in-law of interim Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara.

Authorities said the weapons were of the same sort as a shipment intercepted last week in Australia en route from North Yemen to Fiji.

The jewellery — which included lavish gold pendants, and rings and bracelets made of diamonds, emeralds or opals — fetched a total of \$82,000, surpassing its pre-sale estimate of \$50,000.

Many pieces sold for two to 10 times the estimate, said Robin Ahrens, spokeswoman for Christie's, the auctioneer.

An unidentified lawyer purchased nine items for a total of \$28,000. They included 22-carat opal and diamond ring which sold for \$4,400. The ring was a gift from Presley to the unidentified woman in 1974. The entertainer believed opals possessed a magical quality, said Mrs Ahrens.

Confident to become next US President

Dukakis wins last primaries

LOS ANGELES, June 8, (Reuter): Michael Dukakis, assured of the Democratic nomination after big wins in his party's final primary votes, looked confidently ahead today to becoming the next President of the United States.

Within hours of locking up the nomination, Dukakis, 54, made clear his main targets now were vice-presidents — bow to beat the Republican nominee, Vice-President George Bush, and who to select as his own running mate.

Dukakis scored solid victories in the last of the year's primary elections on Tuesday, picking up enough delegates to ensure his nomination at next month's Democratic convention in Atlanta.

The Massachusetts governor beat his only remaining Democratic challenger, black civil rights activist Jesse Jackson, in California, New Jersey, Montana and New Mexico, and said in a victory speech in Los Angeles he was ready to win the US presidential election in November.

"I'm not going to rule anybody in or out," Dukakis said.

But he hinted that Jackson may not be his first choice.

"Jesse's worked hard. He's demonstrated very strong leadership. There are other good people in the party as well."

A jazz band blared "when the saints go marching in," a mass of red, white and blue balloons floated down from the ceiling of the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, and supporters waved US flags as Dukakis marched in after his victory last night.

"I know I speak with pride for every American when I speak about this race," he told his victory audience.

"A son of immigrants from Massachusetts and a black man who grew up poor in South Carolina are the two finalists for the Democratic nomination for the presidency of the United States.

Dukakis' supporters described him as hard working, honest, a calm technocrat, a skilled administrator. Opponents call him conciliatory, over-confident, knowing little outside his role as Governor of Massachusetts.

Dukakis has vowed to stay in the race in order to influence the party's policy platform. He has threatened a convention floor fight over his demand that the party should label South Africa as a terrorist state because of its policy of apartheid.

Bush, who ran unopposed in the primaries and is certain to get the Republican Party's nomination at its convention in New Orleans in August, hit out at Dukakis during a party rally in

Boston from a neck operation to remove damaged spinal discs, came on the telephone to give her congratulations.

On the press plane on the last day of his campaign, Reuter correspondent Ronald Clarke reported that Dukakis strolled along the aisle chatting to reporters who had been with him throughout his primary campaign, seemingly without a care in the world.

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ed Army man expelled

MANILA, June 8. (Reuters): The Philippines today deported to Tokyo an alleged member of the Japanese Red Army accused of involvement in the hijacking of a Japanese airliner in Bangladesh in 1977.

Hirosi Sensui, 51, was put under heavy guard aboard a sealed Japan Air Lines flight to Tokyo.

The Japanese embassy had asked for his deportation to face specified charges.

Sensui was freed from a Japanese prison in September 1977 in exchange for the release of 156 hostages held on Japan Air Lines aircraft hijacked by the Japanese Red Army in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

He had been serving a life sentence for burglary and murder since April 1961.

The Philippine news agency said Sensui entered the Philippines in May 1984 posing as a tourist.

He was detained with his wife at a hotel in Manila on Tuesday and taken to an Army camp. Military intelligence sources said he was handcuffed to his bed to prevent a suicide bid.

Five killed in Sri Lanka poll violence

COLOMBO, June 8. (AP): The government has dispatched at least 20,000 soldiers and police to Sri Lanka's southern province to maintain order during district council elections this week, police said today.

They said pre-poll violence had claimed five lives.

The government also said it would curtail bus and rail services in the province during Thursday's voting.

Sinhalese militants opposed to the councils attacked government buildings, buses and trains during elections in two other provinces last week.

On Tuesday, Sinhalese radicals killed at least three people in the southern province, and police fatally shot two radicals, a statement from police headquarters in Colombo said. It gave no details.

The government agreed to set up the councils and grant them limited autonomy under an Indian-brokered peace plan to end the Tamil insurgency. But Tamil separatists reneged on their July 29 accord, and have continued negotiations.

Militant Sinhalese radicals are creating a creation of councils, charging they will increase regional sub-branches on the island republic and grant too much power to the Tamils.

The Sinhalese People's Liberation Front has threatened to kill people who vote Thursday, residents of the southern province said in telephone interviews.

The residents, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the front had told people to stay home for 12 hours on Thursday.

One-fourth of Soviet troops have left Afghanistan, says Najib**Pakistan warned of retaliation**

UNITED NATIONS, June 8. (AP): Afghan President Najib, in his first speech to the United Nations, said that one-quarter of the Soviet Union's troops have been withdrawn from his country but warned Pakistan to stop arming anti-government insurgents.

"If the Pakistani side does not adopt appropriate measures to end interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan from its territory," Najib said, "Afghanistan reserves its right to react to this in a manner warranted by the situation." He did not elaborate.

He accused Pakistani authorities and armed extremists of hindering the voluntary return of Afghan refugees to their homeland.

"Such actions are sheer violations of the letter and spirit of the Geneva accords and an affront to the United Nations," said Najib, speaking in the Dari language.

Soviet officials have said the Soviet withdrawal of its 115,000 troops, which began on May 15, could be slowed if Pakistan does not honour the Geneva accords which call for non-interference and a nine-month Soviet troop

pullout. One-quarter of the troops would be about 28,700.

"They, in Islamabad, will be gravely mistaken," Najib said, "should they think that only one part of the Geneva accords—the return of the Soviet troops—will be implemented and the other parties will not live up to their commitments."

Najib, in a bid to win legitimacy for his embattled government, delivered a 30-minute speech to a special General Assembly session on disarmament and devoted a major part of his speech to the situation in Afghanistan.

He again called for national reconciliation and establishment of a coalition government, including opposition forces.

Guarantees

He also called on the international community, lending institutions and the United Nations to contribute to economic reconstruction and rehabilitation of Afghanistan.

Pakistan and the United States have opposed international aid at this time, saying the appeal is premature until Soviet troops have departed. Pakistan has called the appeal an attempt to

legitimise a government which is not supported by key segments of the Afghan community at home and abroad.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze was present in the assembly hall to hear Najib's speech. But the United States, which does not recognise the Afghan government, did not send an ambassador. Instead, the mission sent Anna Mourning, a young foreign service intern, to sit alone at the US table and listen to the speech.

The Geneva accords were negotiated by the United Nations and signed by Afghanistan and Pakistan. Both pledged non-interference in each other's internal affairs. The United States, which has armed Afghan rebels with Pakistan, and the Soviet Union, which supports the Kabul government, signed the agreement as guarantors.

The question of interference and continued aid to the Afghan resistance groups appears to pose a serious problem to smooth implementation of the agreement.

"Afghanistan shall sincerely and faithfully abide by its obligations stemming from the

accords," Najib said. "Any action aimed at playing down or ignoring the Geneva agreements will damage the successful implementation of the accords and will jeopardise peace, security and stability in the region..."

Assault

Meanwhile, the Afghan government has recently reinforced its garrison at Jalalabad, which guards the eastern approaches to Kabul, Afghan guerrillas said.

The guerrillas, speaking from the Pakistani border town of Peshawar, said 15,000 government troops now defended the city, and that four infantry regiments, a rocket brigade and an artillery regiment had been sent in.

They said the government feared an imminent, large-scale guerrilla assault on the city.

Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, chairman of the seven-party guerrilla alliance, has promised an attack sometime this month.

Other guerrillas dismissed the promise as bluster and said the rebels had neither the desire nor the equipment to mount an assault which would cost many lives.



A student smashes a car window by kicking during street violence in Dhaka. (Reuter wirephoto)

Dhaka students riot over Islamisation

DHAKA, June 8. (Reuter): At least five students were injured today when police tried to end protests against Islam being proclaimed the state religion of Bangladesh, witnesses said.

Street fights broke out when riot police used truncheons in an attempt to disperse an estimated 2,000 Dhaka University students demonstrating near the government secretariat.

The demonstrators chanted demands for the repeal of a constitutional amendment approved by parliament on Tuesday that gave official recognition to Islam.

Witnesses said the students damaged at least 20 vehicles during the protest.

Police said no one was arrested.

About 3,000 politicians, workers and students staged noisy demonstrations soon after the controversial amendment was approved.

They set three vehicles ablaze and damaged several others.

Opposition leaders including Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina and Bangladesh Nationalist Party chairman Begum

Khaleda Zia denounced the bill as an attempt to fool the people and divert their attention from economic and other problems.

They also said the move could give rise to fundamentalism and jeopardise communal harmony.

Prime Minister Moudud Ahmed said giving Islam its due status in a country with 90 per cent of the 105 million people were Muslims would give the nation a new identity.

"We are not snatching away fundamental rights of Hindus, Christians and Buddhists in our country. Equality before law has been ensured for all citizens," he told parliament.

Nirmal Sen, head of the alliance of five parties said: "The law, which will divide the nation between Muslims and non-Muslims, will have far-reaching, unfortunate impact on the national life... we shall continue our agitation against the law."

But Syed Deedat Bakht, the Jatiya whip in parliament, said the law would "ensure communal harmony" and "encourage the non-Muslims to follow their faiths in total freedom."

Woman weds photograph of Indira's assassin

NEW DELHI, June 8. (AP): A 23-year-old Sikh woman overcame family opposition and married Satwant Singh, convicted of assassinating former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, a newspaper reported today.

But Singh, in jail facing execution, could not attend the ceremony, so The Statesman newspaper said Surinder Kaur was married May 2 to a photograph of Singh in a village in Punjab state.

The two were engaged in 1983 and fixed their wedding date for September 1984. However the marriage was postponed because Singh, a constable in the capital's police force, could not get leave, it said.

Singh was assigned to the Prime Minister's security guard in 1984. On Oct 31, 1984, he and another Sikh bodyguard shot Mrs Gandhi in the garden of her residence in the capital. Singh, now 25, was convicted of murder and sentenced to be hanged. The sentence was confirmed by New Delhi's high court but an appeal is pending before the Supreme Court.

The Statesman said Surinder Kaur went through the marriage ceremony despite opposition from her parents and Singh's parents.

Threat

"I tried everything I could do to stop her," Kaur's father, Wirsa Singh, told the newspaper. But the parents yielded after Kaur threatened to commit suicide if she was not allowed to marry her fiance.

The marriage rites were performed by a Sikh priest, the newspaper said. Kaur garlanded a photograph of Satwant Singh and carried it around a fire seven times, in a bizarre version of an orthodox Sikh wedding ceremony, it said.

There was no word on whether the ceremony had legal or religious sanction. Satwant Singh was informed of his marriage two weeks later when his parents visited him at New Delhi's central jail, the paper said. It did not report his reaction.

Police thwart protest march**Beijing warns students**

BEIJING, June 8. (AP): Police cordoned off Tiananmen Square in the heart of Beijing today to thwart a planned pro-democracy demonstration by university students, but by late afternoon the proposed rally appeared to have fizzled.

The police action came as Beijing authorities and official newspapers warned students that the march from Beijing University to Tiananmen Square was illegal and would undermine the stability needed to carry out economic and political reform.

Students at China's most prestigious university gathered around posters calling for democracy, human rights and better conditions for unpaid intellectuals, but there was no attempt to organise a march. The students' mood was subdued and wary. Many said they would not participate.

At Tiananmen, hundreds of

police stood at attention about 15 metres apart along the perimeter of the 40-hectare square, the symbolic political centre of China.

Police reinforcements and vehicles also were positioned along side streets around the square, which is flanked by the Great Hall of the People, Mao Tse-Tung's mausoleum, the National Revolutionary Museum and the old Imperial Palace.

Tourists who ordinarily stroll through the square were ordered out and milled around outside, curious to see what might take place.

Police, when asked about the closure, responded, "we have a special activity" or "I'm not sure."

A few students sat in small groups on the sidewalk, refusing to talk to reporters.

The proposed 16-kilometre

march from the campus to the square would have been the first major political protest by students since nationwide student unrest in the winter of 1986-87.

That spasm of opposition to government policies led to a heavy-hitting campaign against liberal ideas and the ouster of then-Communist Party chief Hu Yaobang for failing to take quick action to quell the disturbances.

The current unrest was prompted by the June 2 murder of a Beijing University student in an off-campus brawl. Six non-students were arrested for the crime when police moved quickly to satisfy student demands that the assailants be brought to justice.

But the protest has since expanded to cover more general complaints about the course of the nation and treatment of intellectuals.

Soviets rule out military solution in Mideast

THE Kremlin has told Syria, its key Arab protege, that a Middle East peace settlement will only be achieved by political efforts and not military action, a local newspaper reported yesterday.

It quoted Karen Brutens, deputy chairman of the International Department of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee, as saying in a Moscow interview: "We have told President Hafez Assad that Middle East settlement will not materialise through military might and that we are ready to reactivate political and diplomatic moves."

Brutens was quoted as saying the Soviet Union will continue contacts with the United States and Arab countries to convene an international Middle East peace conference, building on the achievements of the superpower summit of Moscow.

The Arabs have demanded an international conference under United Nations auspices to settle the Middle East conflict.

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Painted eyes save planes

TOKYO, June 8. (Reuters):

Japan's second largest airline, All Nippon Airways (ANA), said today it has cut mid-air collisions with birds by 20 per cent over the past three years by painting bugs' eyeballs on its engines.

An ANA spokesman said it was not known how the trick worked, but he said the eyes seemed to trigger an instinct in the birds which made them veer away from the approaching aircraft.

The spokesman said the airline had received enquiries on the idea from a number of other companies including Air France, Cathay Pacific, Boeing and Lockheed.

Based on an idea by an ANA engineer three years ago, a black-and-white staring eyeball is painted on the fan cone in front of the jet engines on all its Boeing aircraft.

Washington initially resisted the idea of a conference, which would be attended by the Soviet Union.

It later accepts that, but only as a second step toward limited Palestinian self-rule in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, according to the latest US peace blueprint.

Settlement

The US concept also envisages limited powers for the proposed conference, and has not accepted that the Palestine Liberation Organisation should represent the Palestinians.

Brutens said that a settlement worked out at the proposed conference should be based "on the concept of the balance of interests between the Palestinian right to self-determination and Israel's right to exist."

Brutens was quoted as saying

the Soviet Union will continue contacts with the United States and Arab countries to convene an international Middle East peace conference, building on the achievements of the superpower summit of Moscow.

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SOLE AGENT: EASA HUSSAIN AL YOUSIFI

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Travellers warned against shopping at blacklisted stores

THE director general of the general administration for customs Ibrahim Al Ghanim, yesterday warned Kuwaiti and resident passengers against purchasing any items from blacklisted stores such as British "Marks and Spencer" and "C and A".

Al Ghanim, in statements to KUNA, said these stores are boycotted as per the rulings of Israel Boycott Office.

Products brought to Kuwait by passengers can be legally confiscated in conformity with law, he stressed.

Raided

In reply to a question, Al Ghanim said all children's Uzi-shaped toy guns were confiscated from the local market.

The issue is being examined and if any manipulation was

proved legal procedures will be implemented, he added.

Al Ghanim said that inspectors from his department had raided many shops selling children's toys and confiscated their stock of a replica of the Israel "Uzi" sub-machine gun.

In one raid, he told KUNA, a total of twenty boxes were held. He added that the confiscated merchandise is made in Hong Kong and had slipped into the market because the source and the manufacturer were not on the blacklist of the Arab Boycott of Israel.

He affirmed that his department had taken the necessary measures warranted by the situation and had asked the manufacturing company to clarify its position and its relations with

Israel.

He, however, warned, that if the department discovers that the matter is deliberate it will take the agent to court so that necessary legal action will be taken against him.

The director was answering questions from KUNA on the presence of this toy which publicises the Israeli war machinery especially at a time when the real gun is used to kill the Arab people including children.

It was also found out that there is another version from this toy carrying made in China markings.

Chocolate named Flakes is also blacklisted and should not be bought back by holiday-makers, he affirmed.

Egypt's stand lauded

CAIRO, June 7. (KUNA): Head of the Kuwait diplomatic mission to Egypt today stressed that Kuwait "highly appreciates" Egypt's supportive stance vis-à-vis the challenges and threats facing Kuwait, noting that such a stance at the side of Kuwait is natural from Egypt.

Ambassador Abdelaq Al Kandari told KUNA, that Egypt is keen on offering all it can to maintain security and stability of the Arab countries, "no doubt such a stance stems from an awareness by Egypt that any threat to any Arab state is a threat to all Arab countries."

In reply to a question, Al Kandari said Egyptian officials are working on removing obstacles facing the flow of Arab investment in general and the Gulf citizens in particular.

Historic

He added that the Egyptian government has passed a special law designed to facilitate the ownership of apartments, houses and lots in Egypt by non-Egyptians.

The ambassador described relations between Kuwait and Egypt as historic and bolstered

by fraternity and common destiny. He said in this respect that relations have never been severed but were lacking the official frame.

Majority of the Arab countries severed relations with Egypt following the signing of the Camp David accords with Israel in 1979 during the regime of late Egyptian President Anwar El Sadat.

Most of the Arab states resumed diplomatic relations late last year following the Arab Extraordinary summit held in the Jordanian capital in November.

KAC offers manpower expertise

THE chairman of Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC), Ahmad Al Mishari, has said that most government establishments and authorities in the state seek to develop their manpower. He added that KAC had suggested co-ordination among these establishments to exchange experiences and experiments, which would save time and money spent on manpower development. He noted that KAC had been carrying out a plan to develop its staff for the last eight years. The experience gained during this time and details of the administrative plan were included in a special book KAC had published, Al Mishari said.

Another pilgrimage season this year will be an auspicious one — the haj day being Friday. Most astronomers, including Dr Saleh Al Ojaiby of Kuwait confirmed the haj would be held this year on Friday. Hence, everybody is striving to visit the shrine this year to perform the pilgrimage rituals.

A local daily conducted an opinion survey of firms involved in the pilgrimage convoys to highlight the services rendered by these convoys.

Sheikh Salem visits computer centre

THE Minister of the Interior, Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, paid an inspection visit to the ministry's computer centre yesterday, accompanied by the Under-secretary, Major General Yousef Bader Al Khorafi.

The minister and accompany-

ing delegation were received at the centre by the Director General, Lt Colonel Fahd Khaled Al Mukkied and the head of the public relations department, Colonel Ahmad Abdul Latif Al Rajaib.

The minister toured the

various sections of the centre, where he listened to accounts of the tasks performed and reviewed the programmes currently being used, as well as those proposed for future implementation.



Sheikh Salem touring sections of the centre.

Haj convoys offering reasonable prices

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A local daily conducted an opinion survey of firms involved in the pilgrimage convoys to highlight the services rendered by these convoys.

Excellent

Mohammed Abdulqattah, one of those interviewed said prices this year were unified and reasonable and depended on the vehicle being airconditioned or not. Airconditioned buses cost KD 250 and airconditioned suburban KD 350. For those wishing to travel in their own cars, a payment of KD 225 per head is to be made to the convoy owner. This price includes hotel booking, visa charges and full board. He added that his convoy would be accompanied by a refrigerated van containing foodstuffs, water and first aid materials. He praised the cooperative efforts between the pilgrimage convoys owners and the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs.

A pilgrim, Wajeh Mustafa, said the haj season this year appears to be excellent. Adding that he had travelled with the Kuwaiti convoys about 19 times, he described the services as excellent.

Another pilgrimage, Jameel Abdulqattah said he joined the Kuwaiti convoys about three times and was satisfied with their services. Previously, he said charges were KD 300 per head by bus, but this year, the prices had been reduced to KD 250.

Dr Yusuf Ismaeil, a convoy owner said prices this year were not high because they were inclusive of accommodation and food. He said his convoy would provide Kuwaiti, Egyptian and Indian cuisine. He appreciated the procedures laid down by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs. However, he was critical of the ministry's decision to convoys, to allocate a specific place for the Kuwaiti pilgrims in Mina while other pilgrims could stay in different places. This he added caused several problems to convoy owners.

Hassan Ahmed and Mohammed Al Einazi both Kuwaitis said the prices this year were moderate and the Kuwaiti convoy services were outstanding.

Bader Faleh Al Bader, a con-

voy owner said some pilgrims blame the convoy owners for the hike in the pilgrimage charges this year. Actually, he said it was not high compared to that of last year, particularly in view of the services provided.

Egyptian envoy

THE State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saeed Mohammad Al Osaimi yesterday received Egyptian Ambassador to Kuwait Saeed Refaat.

Message of thanks

CHAIRMAN of the Kuwait Olympic Committee Sheikh Salman Al Hamoud Al Sabah has sent a message of thanks and appreciation to HH the Amir on his recent contribution to all youth and sports sectors.

Sheikh Salman affirmed, in the message he sent yesterday, that the consistent support by the Amir to the sports movement and youth is an inspiration to exert maximum efforts to achieve hopes of our beloved country.

Youth is the main element and the true wealth of a nation and as much as we provide care and concern to them the more they will yield good results, Al Hamoud added.

The sports official renewed commitment to the Amir that the committee will continue assisting all youth sectors to elevate their performance.

Palestinian women hold charity bazaar

THE general union of Palestinian women yesterday held an open day exhibition and offered for sale handiwork made by Palestinian women in occupied Palestine.

The proceeds of the exhibition will be channelled towards supporting the popular uprising. The items on display included clothing, embroidery, popular uniforms and other handicrafts.

Speaking on the occasion, the secretary of the Palestinian Heritage Committee stressed the active role played by Palestinian women currently suffering under the harsh measures of the Israeli occupation forces. The importance of the exhibition lay in the fact that the makers of the items were striving hard and using all legitimate means to preserve the popular Palestinian heritage.

She called for further support of the national Palestinian establishment in occupied Palestine and urged the visitors to render their support through the purchase of the items on sale.

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An exclusive branch for KAC staff from the Gulf Bank

The Gulf Bank K.S.C. opened on Saturday, June 4, 1988, an exclusive branch for Kuwait Airways staff in the Service Building of the International Airport.

The opening ceremony was attended, from KAC, by Messrs Ahmad Al Mishari, Chairman and Managing Director, Ahmad Al Zabin, G.M., Yousef Al Jassim OGM for Finance & Administration, Ghazi Al Masra'ah, DGM — Commercial Affairs, Jassim Khosai, Head of Banking Division and Adel Al Sane' Head of Liabilities and Cash Flow Division.

KASCO was represented by Mr Khalid Al Dawsani, Managing Director and GM and Mr Ali Hmoud Al Ali Financial Manager. The Gulf Bank was represented by Mr Abdul Latif Al Mehry Director and Chairman of Branches Committee, Dr Yousef A. Al Awadi, Chief General Manager and Chief Executive Officer and Mr Moh'd Al Saif, GM Domestic Banking Group. This exclusive branch will extend all banking and financial services to KAC staff working at or in the vicinity of Kuwait International Airport.

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ROYAL COURT

Deputy Amir and Crown Prince audiences

HH the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah yesterday received the Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed, the Planning Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi who was accompanied by head of Al Barbeer Hospital and his accompanying delegation.

Sheikh Saad also received the Communications Minister Abdullah Al Sharhan, the Minister of State for Municipality Affairs Mohammed Al Sayed Al Rifai, the Minister of State for Housing Affairs Nasser Al Roudhan the Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi, the Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khaili Al Attbi, Secretary General of the Higher Council for Planning Fouad Mulla Hussain and member of the Higher Council for Planning Dr Khalid Al Mazkour.

Later Sheikh Saad received in audience Sheikh Saad Jaber Al Ahbi and Yasser Hawari, chief editor of "Arabia" magazine, published in Paris and also a number of citizens of the public division.

Cable of thanks

HH the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Sabah has received a cable of gratitude and appreciation from the seminar on developing education and training in the Gulf states.

Participants in the seminar, which took place in Kuwait from May 21 to 23, applauded Sheikh Saad's keenness on supporting the education and training march, saying such stance enabled them to fulfil their goals.

In a reply cable, Sheikh Saad thanked the participants for their good gesture and praised such meetings that would further enhance co-operation between the region's peoples.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Last hope of collective Arab action

THE Kuwaiti daily Al Waton, yesterday warned that the summit of Arab leaders currently meeting in Algiers, is the last hope of collective Arab action not only for the Palestinians but for the solidarity and cohesion of the Arab nation itself.

"If we do not agree on what we are in practice agreed upon, is there any hope in the future of the Arabs solving the issues on which they differ," the newspaper said in reference to the popular uprising in occupied Palestine which entered the seventh month.

The extraordinary Arab summit which opened in Algiers on Tuesday night has been called to discuss the support the Arab states can extend to the uprising against the Zionist occupation which killed over 300, and injured thousands and detained over 17,000 according to Western reports.

Noting that all the Arabs agreed on supporting "the revolution of the stones," the daily noted that "unless the summit comes out with clear resolutions supporting our people inside (Palestine) no hope can be pinned on future Arab summits no matter what slogans they raise."

Al Waton reminded the Arab leaders that the shuttle of the US Secretary of State George Shultz in the region was prompted by "the loud sound of the Palestinian stone" and in a futile attempt to silence it in favour of the Israeli interests.

"The Arab leaders are facing a challenge to unite and support the blessed uprising and make of it a benevolent opening for future unity and effective Arab summits and a strong Arab voice upholding the uprising," Al Waton said.

Writing along the same lines, Al Rai Al Aam said that contrary to misconceptions of the sixties and seventies, Israel is not that mighty power which the Palestinians feared and shun away from.

The popular uprising has created a new situation which the Arabs should be quick to employ in rejecting the policy of occupation of the Arab lands by force, the newspaper suggested, adding that the American secretary of state had admitted that new facts have emerged in the region and called on Israel to understand these facts.

The shuttle can show seriousness in supporting the uprising and in viewing the revolution as one of the venues leading to drawing a new future on the Arab land," the daily said.

The state of ondly the Arab nation has been living in, should be brought to an end and progression of Arab change begun by joint Arab action based on clarity, frankness and consistency, Al Rai Al Aam underlined.

GULF PRESS

Call for decisive resolutions

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE) newspapers commenting editorially on the emergency Arab summit currently in session in Algiers, called for adopting decisive resolutions to support the heroic Palestinian uprising in occupied territories.

Al Ittihad newspaper of Abu Dhabi, commenting on the same subject said: "President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan defined during his meeting with PLO leader Yasser Arafat, what is being expected by the Palestinian people and sons of the Arab nation from the Algiers summit are ... either a just peace matching with the aspirations of the Palestinian people ensuring their legitimate rights of self-determination and statehood or to mobilise Arab human, military and economic potentials to liberate Palestinian territories from Zionist occupation."

The paper cited this position to President Shalhah Zayed's remarks during his meeting with Arafat yesterday in which he said "if the Palestinian people achieve their goals it will be a source of delight for all Arabs but if not then Arab states should not be blamed but they have to mobilise oil available potentials to liberate Palestine and this cannot be achieved without unifying Arab ranks."

The paper said that

Demand is high

Providing maids has become a good business

RINGING maids into Kuwait has become a good business as they are in great demand both by citizens and expatriates. Authorities concerned about aids, have closed several unauthorised businesses involved in providing maids to households.

A local newspaper toured a number of maids offices (both authorised and unauthorised) to obtain a closer look at the operations. It noted that newspapers were printed with advertisements for bringing maids of various nationalities and capabilities. At one such office, situated in one of the apartments, a man was sitting in a living room behind a rather imposing desk surrounded by his assistants and a number of customers came asking for maids.

Trial

Haydar Falah, one of the customers said he came to the office reading an advertisement in the paper. He was in urgent need of a maid. The office provided him a maid who was at the office and told him to pay them KD30 as advance payment on the maid's salary. After six days, he was forced to return the maid as

she was not competent. The second maid lasted four days. The office, however, gave Falah only KD8 back, claiming the balance was their service charges. They informed him that he could go to the police should he desire.

Another customer at the same office said he paid the office money for a maid two months earlier and obtained her a work permit. However, he had not received any maid. The customer added the office gives the maid on trial for several days to another customer and collects KD30 — this is while the maid is still under the sponsorship of the first customer — without the knowledge of the original customer who sponsored the maid.

Choose

Another maid office which did not even possess any sign on its doors charged KD45 for Christian Sri Lankan maids, KD90 for Muslim Sri Lankan maids, KD200 on Christian Philippine maids, KD250 on Muslim Philippine maids and KD120 on Muslim and Christian Indian maids. A customer goes personally to choose his maid from

photographs. The office has an agent overseas and the maid arrives in about two months after papers have been processed. Photographs of maids are also sent to customers' houses for selection. However, KD10 is charged for this service.

A resident, Khalil Al Khalifi said maids are necessary as they assist in cleaning the house, especially when there is a large family. Some maids offices, he claimed, said the maid spoke Arabic and English. However, when the maid arrived, she could speak neither — causing problems.

Censorship

A lady customer called for more censorship on unauthorised maids offices as they caused many problems. She had tried several maids through maids offices and faced many problems.

Another resident said he had never tried bringing maids through offices, most of the maids he had brought were through relatives or friends. He believed maids should be employed for house cleaning purposes only and not to look after children.

Amir meets Gulf leaders

ALGIERS, June 8. (KUNA): HH the Amir today called on the Amir of Qatar Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani at his residence.

The Amir also received at his residence here, Amir of Bahrain, Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa.

Meanwhile, Iraq's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz conferred here with his Kuwaiti counterpart Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed and the Saudi and Bahraini Foreign Ministers Prince Saud Al Faisal and Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa.

Iraqi sources said that the meeting tackled agenda of the extraordinary Arab summit, currently convening here.

Earlier reports said that foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council states conferred here today with Aziz on the periphery of the conference.



HH the Amir with Sheikh Khalifa.

Hussein opens gallery of Kuwaiti formative arts

PARIS, June 8. (KUNA): Under the patronage of an adviser at the Kuwaiti Amiri Diwan, Abdul Aziz Hussein, a gallery of Kuwaiti formative arts was opened at the UNESCO headquarters yesterday evening.

The gallery, which displays the works of 22 Kuwaiti artists, was visited by the Kuwaiti Ambassador to France Dr Tareq Razouqi, Kuwait's permanent representative at UNESCO, Dr Faiss Al Salem, and senior officials at UNESCO.

Also present at the gallery, which is held for two weeks at the Sally Pas Pedros Hall at UNESCO, were chairman of the Institute of the Arab World, Paul Carton, institute's director general Basem Al Jisr, permanent delegates to UNESCO and chairman of the international union of formative artists, Ismail

Al Sheikly.

"I can only congratulate Kuwait for its offer to the world of this art," Carton told the Kuwait News Agency.

Al Sheikly said the gallery reflects the progress of the Kuwaiti formative arts movement which has now reached high international levels.

Chairman of the Kuwait Society for Formative Arts, Mahmoud Al Radhiwan, told KUNA that the gallery was organised by the Kuwaiti commission for education, science and arts in co-operation with his society.

He added that the gallery will move to Rome after Paris where it will be held in the Egyptian academy for two weeks.

Al Radhiwan is accompanied by the society's member Abdallah Al Qassar and Adel Al Misaal.

Sudan affirms support for Kuwait's stand

SUDANESE head of State Council Ahmad Ali Al Mirghani yesterday affirmed his country's supportive stand to Kuwait's efforts to defend its security and sovereignty.

Mirghani, in an interview with a Kuwaiti daily condemned Iran's continuous aggressions on Kuwait, calling on it to respond to international peace calls and UN Security Council resolution 598.

He also emphasised the importance of unifying Arab ranks, clearing Arab atmosphere and setting up an Arab strategy to

achieve these goals. He expressed hope that the current emergency Arab summit in Algiers would achieve these goals.

He said the Arabs should invest the achievements of the Palestinian uprising at diplomatic and informational levels to win world public opinion.

He concluded that the foreign media intervention hindered the Sudanese initiative to restore the Egyptian-Libyan relations, affirming that his country would continue its mediation in this regard.

Plan to reorganise real estate market

IT has been reliably learnt that the local real estate companies have formed a committee to discuss methods for organising and developing the real estate market in the country.

The committee aims at developing basis for the purchase and sale of real estate within which framework real estate brokers would operate. The committee in its first meeting decided to write to the Chamber of Commerce and Industry on organising the real estate market on lines similar to those existing at the stock exchange market. A company has been requested to prepare a computerised programme that would provide detailed information to dealers about real estates offered for sale and also provide periodical reports about conditions prevailing in the real estate market in Kuwait. The management of the Kuwaiti Stock Market agreed to study the proposal of providing a

computer for this purpose in the stock market itself.

The committee has the support of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry after it held a meeting with its chairman, Abdul Aziz Al Saqer who promised to provide total support and added the committee would be preparing a law to regulate the real estate market.



Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamed opening an arts exhibition at the arts gallery of the Higher Theatrical Arts Institute at Dahliyat Abdulla Al Salem. The ceremony was held Tuesday to coincide with the graduation of students of the Institute.

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Table Talk

BY DINAH

RECENTLY we spent the evening at Al Andalus Supper Club of the Holiday Inn Hotel where they were boasting a British night as part of a week-long British festival. As we entered the lobby musicians dressed as beefeaters played a fanfare full of pomp but totally out of proportion to the circumstances — a rather pathetic exhibition of British products comprising a few bottles of shampoo, the odd chocolate bar and a couple of cars.

Of all the night clubs in Kuwait Al Andalus is perhaps the most spacious and comfortable. It's designed in the form of a grotto with rock walls,

Ploughman's supper

trickling water and a circular glass dance floor surrounded by a moat and fountains. The buffet is set out in a separate room and there is even a redundant bar complete with bar stools. The seating is plush and comfortable and the tables roomy.

The evening included a three course dinner buffet and live entertainment from a traditional jazz band and folk singers. The salad buffet was first class. Although the range of dishes was small, they all contained top quality ingredients such as crab claws, Gulf prawns, smoked salmon, smoked berring and mackerel. There were pressed meats, meatloaf, aspic and an impressive cheese board. There were also some original salad combinations such as chicory and walnuts.

The range of hot dishes was equally impressive but not to my taste. The best of British food is a hearty diet designed for a weary farm labourer who was spent the day ploughing in biting winds and driving rain. Steak and kidney pudding, roast sirloin and Yorkshire pudding, shepherd's pie, Irish stew, mashed potatoes and

brussel sprouts all seemed out of place in a night club when the temperature outside was over 40°. However, if you like that type of fare it was very tasty and well prepared.

The desserts were similarly the kind that a rosy cheeked farmer's wife would serve up after a heavy day's harvesting or sheep shearing. There was a wide selection of home made pies which were delicious but really lacked fresh cream or custard to make them palatable. The crisp and caramelised brandy snaps were perhaps the greatest success.

The band created a lively atmosphere with their foot-stomping trad jazz, while the waiters provided a brisk and efficient service. At KD5.500 per person including juices, water and coffee the evening was excellent value for money.

RESTAURANT: Al Andalus TYPE: Night Club of Holiday Inn MEAL: Three course buffet. PRICE: KD11 (for two) Star rating (out of five): FOOD: **** SERVICE: **** ATMOSPHERE: **** VALUE FOR MONEY: ****



Paul Fraser strikes a Ramboesque pose

Farewell concert

By Keith Wells

PAUL FRASER, one of Kuwait's most popular entertainers, is leaving the country at the end of this month, so his two concerts at the Salimiya Cinema on Friday will be his last performances in Kuwait.

The shows, produced by huddog (independent impresario), Ken Winston will be called 'Sounds Great'. Paul will be singing with the Juke Box Band, starring Phil Thomas and June Stephenson, with Waleed doing his Michael Jackson dance routine. The first half of the show will be performed by popular local band Top Rank, with Adolph.

Paul Fraser has been in Kuwait for the past nine years, working as a civil engineer on the design and construction of Kuwait's motorway system.

He's appeared in about thirty shows while he's been here. 'I've done all sorts really,' he says with a self-deprecating grin. 'It started when I went to audition for a pantomime and Ken Winston asked me if I'd like to play the Dame. He's been the one who kept suggesting new things for me to do.

Alicia, my wife, also gave me a lot of moral support and encouragement behind the scenes. When Phil Thomas, he'll end up rocking in the glass-shoes!

was the driving force behind all the Juke Box shows.'

His private shyness and lack of ego are in stark, and charming, contrast to his Over-The-Top stage performances. His impersonations of Elvis, Freddy Mercury, Gary Glitter and Bruce Springsteen have delighted local rock fans with their enormous talent and energy. 'I really enjoy doing them,' says Paul, 'especially Billy Idol, which Gail Scary described as my "grossest" impersonation so far.' But they're more parodies than impersonations, they're all such outrageous personalities. It's been great singing for a thousand people, and I suppose I'll really miss it after I've gone.'

Paul had played guitar and sang before he came to Kuwait, but never in public. Now, he says that he has no plans to carry on singing back in England, although he'd like to perform ballads, perhaps in a cabaret-type setting. 'If you're interested in these things, though,' he confesses, 'they tend to find you.'

His future plans involve setting up his own business designing and building conservatories in the Kew area of south London. But who knows, maybe he'll end up rocking in the glass-shoes!

CINEMA TODAY

| | |
|---|---|
| Al Andalus The Last Shark Starring: James Francisco, Vicki Moro | Al Jabra Qaber Al Fursan (Arabic) Granada Cries in the Night Salabikhat Kalamari Kathamari (Malayalam) |
| Eat the Rich Starring: Roland Alco | Al Jalsa Killer Fish Starring: Lee Majors, Karco Black Drive-In Aad Livanqatam (Arabic) Starring: Ezzat Alalili, Imaan |
| Al Hamsa Killer Fish Starring: Lee Majors, Karco Black Drive-In Aad Livanqatam (Arabic) Starring: Ezzat Alalili, Imaan | Al Jalsa Secret Admirer Granada Nasik (Hindi) Salabikhat Guns and Fury Al Jeeb Bedeen (Bengali) |
| Al Hamsa Killer Fish Starring: Lee Majors, Karco Black Drive-In Aad Livanqatam (Arabic) Starring: Ezzat Alalili, Imaan | Al Jalsa Secret Admirer Granada Nasik (Hindi) Salabikhat Guns and Fury Al Jeeb Bedeen (Bengali) |
| FRIDAY | FRIDAY |

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

| |
|--|
| 9.00 Holy Quran |
| 9.25 Rahlat Haul Al Alam: cartoons |
| 10.15 Sbaqqah Bidou Sbaqqah: daily serial, with Tahya Karioka, Dalal Abdul Aziz |
| 11.00 Ilia Abi Wa Amma, Ma'a Tahya: starring Hayat Al Fahd, Khalid Al Nafis. |
| 12.00 Good Morning-News |
| 1.50 Fawazir Al Munasabat: featuring Yahya Fakhri, Sami, Hala Fuad. |
| 4.00 News Summary |
| 4.15 The Saint: featuring Roger Moore |
| 5.00 Liqa Al Khamsi: weekly local show |
| 7.00 Al Farooqiyah Wal Zamaa: prepared and presented by Mohiddin Qadousi. Soops and Music |
| 7.45 Al Bahath Ao Al Saadah: weekly serial. Starring Samir Ghannem, Hussein Mustafa. |
| 8.30 With Islam: prepared and presented by Dr Khalid Al Madhkur. |
| 9.00 News in Arabic |
| 9.50 From People's Art: Songs and Music |
| 10.30 Al Qadri Raadi: play for children, starring Farid Shawkat, Iham Shabio, Hossein Fahmi. |
| 12.00 Late Night Variety Show presented by Amina Al Sharah. |
| 1.00 News Summary/Holy Quran/Closedown |



Roger Moore plays The Saint, on KTV 1 today.

Hamza.

1.00 News Summary

1.05 World News via Satellite

1.35 Songs

3.00 Preview TV Shows

3.30 Al Qadri Raadi: play for children, starring Abdul Hussein Ahdul Rida, Ghanem Al Saleh, Aisha Ibrahim, Maryam Saleh.

5.45 Cartoons

6.15 Songs

7.00 Kuwait in a Week

7.30 Discussion on Islamic Philosophy: "The Rights of Man." Part One.

8.25 Kui Al Funoon: Focus on Art

9.00 News in Arabic

10.50 Naseem: part two: Kuwaiti play, featuring Abdullah Habil, Maryam Saleh, Mohammad Jaber, Khalid Ismail. Directed by Mohammad Abdul Salam.

11.45 News Summary

11.50 World News via Satellite/Holy Quran/Closedown

accuses her mother of plotting her father's death.

10.00 The Bill Cosby Show: "Culding Dr Huxtable." Cliff is on call.

10.30 Late Night Movie: "Soggy Bottom in U.S." Predictable drama about a small town sheriff whose dog loses in a dog race; meanwhile, a bank in town is robbed.

11.40 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

FRIDAY

6.00 Holy Quran

6.10 Transformers

6.30 Out of this World: "Beano's New Diet." Beano opens a new diet clinic and promises that a famous pop star would attend the opening.

7.00 Airwolf: "The Puppet Master." The team has to prove that a science group, claiming to work for peace, are inciting trouble around the world.

8.00 News in English

8.40 The Beauty and the Beast: "Shades of Grey." Catherine gets a written statement from a friend. What is the statement? And how is Vincent involved?

9.40 227: "Washington Affair." Sandra invites a "special" friend for dinner. Her neighbours are curious to find out more about him.

10.00 Guinness Records: many world records are set by daring, adventurous men and women.

10.30 The Wiseguy: "Not for Nothing." Vinny, working under difficult circumstances, plots the murder of Burnette. Starred: Ken Wahl.

11.30 News Summary

11.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

KTV 2

| |
|---|
| 6.00 Holy Quran |
| 6.10 She Ra: "The Tune in the Sword." cartoons |
| 6.30 The Mickey Mouse Club: a 30 minute show for young viewers. |
| 7.00 Rags to Riches: Foley takes the girls on a picnic. |
| 8.00 News in English |
| 8.40 TV Bloopers and Practical Jokes |
| 9.05 Spies for Hire: "Murder, She Wrote." A girl |

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

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THREE cotton-top tamarin monkeys gather under an infra-red lamp at Melbourne's zoo which is providing artificial heating for animals during winter in nesting and sleeping boxes. Butterflies enjoy constant humidity while the elephants sleep in night quarters. (Reuter wirephoto)



FORMER French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac (right) campaigns for the second round of the general election in Paris, yesterday. Next to Chirac is Jacques Dominati, the outgoing member of Parliament of a Paris constituency. (Reuter wirephoto)



AUSTRALIA'S first surrogate baby, Alice Kirkman, is held by her genetic mother Maggie Kirkman (right), as her sister Linda Kirkman, who bore the child, looks on while posing for the media in Melbourne yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)



A MINER dressed in a traditional costume, wipes away a tear during a memorial service held for the victims of the colliery accident on June 1. (Reuter wirephoto)



US Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci (left) and his South Korean counterpart Oh Ja-bok signed three military cooperation agreements in Seoul yesterday. Carlucci is on a three-day visit expected to be dominated by discussions on security for this year's Seoul Olympics. (Reuter wirephoto)



UPON the exchange of non-military documents at the Moscow summit, US soldiers of the 56th Field Artillery Command in Mutilangen near Stuttgart load the disassembled radar section of a Pershing II intermediate-range missile into a container. In accordance with the INF treaty the Pershing II and cruise missiles based in Mutilangen will be withdrawn from West Germany during the next three years. (Reuter wirephoto)



VETERAN explorer Chris Bonington on his arrival at Heathrow Airport after his team successfully scaled the western route of the Menlungse Mountain in the Himalayas. The expedition also claims to have found clues pointing to the existence of a Yeti-type creature and one member of the party believes to have seen what he thought was a Yeti. (Reuter wirephoto)



EMPEROR Hirohito of Japan speaks to Princess Kikuko (left), widow of Prince Takamatsu, a younger brother of the Emperor who died of lung cancer last year, as he visits the grave of the prince in Tokyo yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)



MASSACHUSETTS Gov. Michael Dukakis raises his arms in victory as he greets his daughter Kara at a campaign victory party at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles on Tuesday. Dukakis won the California primary to gain enough delegates to secure the Democratic nomination for president. (Reuter wirephoto)



VICE-PRESIDENT George Bush waves to supporters at a Republican victory party on Tuesday. Though Bush clinched the GOP nomination weeks ago, he has been campaigning heavily against Democrat Michael Dukakis in California. (Reuter wirephoto)



PEKING University students stage a sit-in demonstration in front of the Revolutionary Museum on Tiananmen Square yesterday as onlookers crowd around them. (Reuter wirephoto)



TURKISH communist leaders Nihat Sargin (left) and Haydar Kutlu (right) face the state security court trial in Ankara with other defendants. (Reuter wirephoto)

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Britain announces sale of Girobank

LONDON, June 8, (AP): The government announced yesterday that it would offer the state-owned bank, Girobank, for sale to a financial institution.

Girobank, formally National Giro, is Britain's sixth largest bank. It was set up in 1963 to cater to the needs of traditionally cash-oriented wage earners and now is part of the post office.

Industry Minister Kenneth Clarke announced the latest privatisation in the House of Commons, saying the bank "now needs to expand vigorously."

The bank, which has about 2.5 million customers, had pre-tax profit of £23.1 million (£42 million) on revenue of £328 million (£594 millions) last year.

"It will ... be important to safeguard close links between Girobank and post office counters," Clarke said.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has previously ruled out the privatisation of the Royal Mail, but not of other postal activities.

Bank of Jordan to loosen controls on interest rates

AMMAN, June 8, (Reuters): Jordan's Central Bank expects its move to loosen interest rate controls will help reduce pressure on the dinar, a senior official said today.

"I think the relaxation in the interest rate structure will help stabilise undue pressure on the dinar," Bank of Jordan Deputy Governor Maher Shukri told Reuters.

Signals

"Interest rates movements will give us regular signals about what kind of monetary policy the Central Bank should follow."

Yesterday the Central Bank abolished a 7.375 per cent ceiling on certificates of deposit for three months and over and worth more than 1,000 dinars (\$2,800). It also freed banks to set their own commission on direct lending to clients.

Deregulation of interest rates had been discussed with banks for many months.

Shukri said Monday's reduction of compulsory exchange rates set by the Central Bank had already proved effective.

"The new system has practically eliminated speculative pressures on the dinar and shown the market that the supply and demand of foreign exchange in Jordan is balanced," he said.

Shukri said banks would now be allowed to deal in foreign currency banknotes, hitherto the preserve of moneychangers who handle about 10 per cent of foreign exchange dealing.

Texaco plans to distribute \$1.65 billion to shareholders

NEW YORK, June 8, (AP): Texaco Inc., the third-biggest US oil company, said yesterday it plans to distribute to shareholders a third of the \$5 billion, about \$1.65 billion, it expects to raise from selling assets as part of its bankruptcy reorganisation plan.

"The distribution may involve cash or the use of securities, in anticipation of the proceeds to be realised from the sales programme," it said in a statement, adding that it is expected to make the distribution "before year end."

Strengthen

"The remaining two-thirds of the proceeds ... will be used to repay debt, strengthen the balance sheet and fund increased capital investment programs for selected retained operations ..." the statement added.

On Monday, Texaco said it had agreed to sell its 99.12 per cent interest in Deutsche Texaco

Solid agreement needed on output quotas in Vienna talks

OPEC to try again to stabilise world oil prices

LONDON, June 8, (Reuters): Deep, politically tinged divisions confront the OPEC organisation which tries again in Vienna talks this weekend to agree on measures to stabilise world oil prices.

Rising prices in a generously supplied market are below an OPEC target of \$18 a barrel, and the demand outlook is uncertain — so oil analysts say that the organisation may need a solid agreement on output quotas for the rest of 1988.

Disarray

An existing accord expires at the end of June, but talks in April on trying to concert new output cuts with six producers from outside the organisation ended with OPEC in disarray.

"The fact that the oil ministers failed to agree any new measures in April" signals the latest depths of political divisions within the organisation, said industry analyst Geoff Pyne of London-based stockbrokers Phillips and Drew.

Iran, Algeria, Venezuela and

Libya are among those favouring a tighter output curb to drive prices higher. But Saudi Arabia, the biggest exporter, Kuwait and the UAE do not want prices to overshoot \$18, market sources say.

OPEC has been split for a decade between members who need more money now and others, like the Saudis, who have petroleum reserves that will last well into the next century and fear that high prices might stifle the West into energy conservation and alternative energy.

Fergus McLeod of Barclays De Zoete Wedd said: "There are two camps. The majority who were very disappointed in April and are very disappointed that prices are low and would like to see a small cutback in production."

"In the other, the Gulf producers are pointing to higher demand and want an increase in the production ceiling."

"The normal pattern when there are two camps is to roll over what they've got."

What OPEC has now is a December 1986 accord to try to keep prices at \$18 by assigning output quotas to 12 of the 13 members — Iraq has excluded itself — within an overall ceiling of 15.06 million barrels per day (BPD).

"Actual output is about 300,000 BPD higher," traders say, while market prices are below \$17.

For consumer nations, a compromise that simply rolled-over the existing accord would probably keep pump prices about where they are now in the coming months, analysts say.

Grapple

Remarks by OPEC leaders suggest that the Vienna talks will have to grapple with three particularly difficult issues — alleged cheating on their quotas by some members, founder member Iraq's refusal to join in organisation output curbs and the future of cooperation with non-OPEC oil exporters.

One problem is to try to define petro-rich natural gas condensates and then decide if these

should count for quota purposes as crude oil.

Saudi Arabia and Kuwait believe some members are defining crudes as condensates, which do not at present count towards output quotas, allowing them to exceed production ceilings.

Founder-member Iraq's refusal to participate in output restraint, on grounds that OPEC fails to give it a quota as big as that of Gulf war foe Iran, is an issue which has taken on new urgency, analysts say, because Iraq's production is set to increase substantially.

The Gulf Arabs are coming to press hard for Iraq's inclusion. They feel it's becoming increasingly pressing to settle, said McLeod.

Urgency

"For the first time, we detect a sense of urgency in the Saudi position to solve the issue this year, ahead of a one million BPD projected increase in Iraq's export capacity in 1989," says brokerage Kleinwort Grievson Securities.

"In recent months, it has become quite clear that, in Saudi and Kuwaiti eyes, the Iraqi quota issue is OPEC's biggest problem," its latest world oil report adds.

Earlier last month, Indonesian Oil Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita also said Iraq should enter the quota system.

OPEC has regularly appealed to non-members to co-operate in stabilising prices.

Believed

But when six non-organisation producers made a unique offer back in April to cut exports by five per cent, if OPEC reciprocated, OPEC could not come up with an agreed response.

"We must first get our house in order," said Kuwait's Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa.

Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqaqazadeh said recently he believed there was now a good chance of OPEC finalising cooperation with non-OPEC oil producers at the coming meeting.

World Business Summary

W. German broker in VW fraud to confess

FRANKFURT, West Germany, June 8, (Reuters): A West German foreign exchange broker suspected of masterminding a currency swindle which cost Volkswagen AG 480 million marks (\$282 million) will confess his involvement, a lawyer representing the broker said today. Lawyer Egon Geis told Reuters Hans-Joachim Schmidt was prepared to confess he had arranged fraudulent currency deals between VW and the Hungarian National Bank which resulted in losses of 380 million marks (\$223 million) for the car maker. Schmidt, however, was denying charges that he profited from arbitration transactions by VW currency dealers which cost the company an estimated further 100 million marks (\$58 million), Geis said. Schmidt, together with VW's former head of foreign exchange Burkhard "Jung" Jünger, is suspected of having masterminded the currency swindle. Schmidt is now in detention in the northern West German town of Oldenburg after his extradition from the United States last week.

Jünger has been in detention in Brunswick since April last year. Geis said Schmidt would be prepared to confess his part in the swindle before the trial, which the prosecution does not expect to start before next year. A confession would speed up proceedings and the trial could start sooner, Geis noted. Volkswagen said last year the fraud had involved "hedging" against currency movements at a time when the dollar was higher than at present. Large international companies often protect against exchange rate fluctuations that may affect their business by contracting to buy and sell currencies at a future date at an agreed price.

Nyerere urges developing countries to unite

KINGSTON, June 8, (OPECNA): Former Tanzanian president Julius Nyerere has urged developing countries to follow the example of the developed nations and unite for the purpose of negotiations between North and South. Delivering a keynote address at a ceremony here, Nyerere decried the lack of unity among developing countries and their preference for bilateralism, the Inter-Press Service (IPS) reported.

"Rich nations quarrel among themselves, but when they are dealing with poor states, they work together and organise themselves," Nyerere pointed out. "We, the poor countries of the economic South, must organise ourselves to decide what we can do better by joint action and to implement our joint decisions," he added.

The former Tanzanian president who is currently chairman of the South Commission established by the Non-aligned Movement, said developing countries were vulnerable because being small, dependent and underdeveloped, they were forced to seek external capital to finance their development. All the industrialised countries, except Japan, had developed only after "massive injections of capital" and developing countries were not likely to be any different. Nyerere pointed to the imbalance in world trade, adding that poor countries "sell at prices fixed by developed countries and buy also at prices fixed by them ... it is they who set the interest rate on our loans." Worse, we sell cheap and buy dear," the African leader said. He said developing countries should form a group to co-ordinate their position in facing the North in negotiations such as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Businessmen set stage for universal banking system

CHICAGO, June 8, (AP): International bankers and business men said yesterday the stage was being set for the eventual creation of a universal banking system, which would offer a variety of financial services to customers worldwide. For one thing, regulatory barriers that separated investment and commercial banks, such as the 1933 depression-era glass-steagall act in the United States, were being abolished or re-examined.

Rainer E. Gut, chairman of Credit Suisse in Zurich, told the international monetary conference. He said the bank of the future will have to change its business strategy by becoming more competitive and aggressive. "In the 1990s, the typical manager in a successful universal bank will be globally oriented, have a flair for market opportunities and possess entrepreneurial instincts."

Gut said in prepared remarks released in advance. The three-day monetary conference, in its 34th year, provides leaders of the top commercial banks and corporations in about two dozen countries an opportunity to confer with government officials on topics affecting the world economy and international banking.

Japan's trade surplus in May likely to plunge

TOKYO, June 8, (Reuters): Japan is likely to chip a huge billion dollar chunk off its trade surplus in May, with much of that from its imbalance with the US, economists said.

"The bilateral trade situation between Japan and the United States is becoming very bright — very optimistic," said economist Hidehiko Iwaki of the Nomura Research Institute.

The Central Bank reverted to setting binding rates after two years in which it posted only guideline prices. It reassessed its grip after two runs on the dinar in a month opened a gap of about 10 per cent between the official and market prices.

Guidelines

It quoted rates of 355/359 firs to the dollar today compared to the last guideline price of 344/355 firs on Monday. The dinar traded at a low of 390 firs last Thursday.

The pressure on the currency appeared to stem from fears about devaluation and foreign exchange shortages.

"We don't pretend everything is rosy and beautiful," Shukri said. "We have problems like everyone else, but they are soluble and we can handle them. They shouldn't cause these reactions."

He said foreign exchange reserves, at a record low of \$28 million in April, were drained by foreign debt repayments totalling \$600 million in the first quarter, but were still enough to meet demand.

Shukri said the move to liberalise interest rates was a very important structural change.

Commonwealth bankers visit London

LONDON, June 8, (AP): Several central bankers from Commonwealth countries are due in London this week to hold talks ahead of the annual meeting of the Bank of International Settlements.

The meetings are routine and no major issues are expected to be raised, an official at the Bank of England said today.

For the BIS meeting, central bankers from countries with close links to Britain stop off at the Bank of England for private meetings," said the official, who was not identified in accordance with British practice.

A White House official said the hour-long briefing included a discussion of the overall goals

and objectives of US trade and agricultural policy at the summit. Reagan will receive three more briefings on other summit topics.

The official said Agriculture Secretary Richard Lyng, Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter and Daniel Amstutz, the chief US negotiator at world trade talks, briefed Reagan "on agricultural issues and the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) round regarding the President's proposal to end farm subsidies."

He was referring to the Uruguay round of GATT talks, which

launched in 1986 and expected to conclude in 1992, which for the first time include farm products in free-trade negotiations.

Last year the United States proposed the elimination of farm subsidies and all barriers to farm imports.

Observer

The US proposal has not been received with enthusiasm by the European Economic Community, which has called for short-term measures to stabilise prices and manage production.

The EEC is an official observer at the summit.

US President gets briefing on key issues

Reagan prepares for economic summit

WASHINGTON, June 8, (Reuters): President Reagan began preparing yesterday for this month's economic summit in Toronto, receiving a briefing from his top advisers on key trade and agricultural issues.

The June 19-21 meeting of the leaders of the seven major industrial democracies — the United States, Britain, Canada, France, West Germany, Japan and Italy — will be the last annual economic summit of Reagan's eight years in office.

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Distribution

The special distribution

reflecting one-third of the \$5 billion Texaco expects to raise in asset sales, will be made before the end of the year, the company said.

The form of the Texaco

payout will be "a share buyback or other direct shareholder participation or distribution," Texaco said. The distribution, which will be in cash or securities, has been endorsed by Texaco's board of directors.

Truth

The truth is management is

trying to buy time with a plan

that won't sell.

Their time is up —

stockholders want the right

to vote for \$60," Icahn said.

He offered \$60 a share to buy out Texaco, a bid valuing the company at \$14.5 billion, after failing to convince the board to undertake a drastic restructuring.

In December, Texaco agreed to settle the suit by paying \$3 billion to Pennzoil as part of a restructuring plan that included sales of \$3 billion worth of assets.

He is also seeking to install five

directors on the 14-member

board at the annual meeting on June 17.

"Unfortunately, Texaco management will promise almost

KD deposits ease in quiet trade

KUWAITI dinar interbank deposits eased in quiet trade yesterday, with liquidity remaining high despite a new KD100 million offering of 91-day Treasury bills.

Dealers said a maturing issue of KD90 million of bills, coupled with an influx of funds from the offshore market, provided banks with surplus cash for the new offering of government paper and helped exert downward pressure on rates.

The Central Bank said it had received KD229 million worth of bids for the bills, which were allotted at an average price of 98.451 for a discount yield of 6.213 per cent.

Short-dated funds were all well-offered, with offers for overnight funds put at 1/2 per cent and tomorrow next at one per cent.

Spot-next dealt at three per cent, reflecting a decline of around two percentage points from Tuesday's levels. Dealers reported two-way trade in one and two-month deposits, which dealt at 6-1/8, and 6-1/4 per cent respectively.

Three-months eased 1/8 point to 6-3/8, 1/8 per cent while six-months inched down 1/16 point to 6-3/16, 1/8 per cent. The Central Bank left its exchange rate unchanged at 0.27548/58 to the dollar. Commercial banks quoted rates of 0.27565/72.

Meanwhile, in Bahrain, Saudi riyal deposits surged once again yesterday in a market dominated by speculation that Saudi Arabia will soon launch a long-awaited government bond issue to finance its 1988 budget deficit.

Traders said the market had begun quietly softer, but soon turned higher again as banks in the kingdom and offshore Bahrain market started increasing already long riyal positions. The rise had been sparked by Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency Governor Hamad Al Sayari's confirmation last Sunday that the bonds scheme was still going ahead. Timing of a launch remains unclear, but banks are anticipating a heavy drain of liquidity.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, June 8. (Reuters): Selective buying by institutions pulled Australian shares off their lows after early profit-taking triggered by downturns on Wall Street and in London. The All Ordinaries was down 4.6 at 159.8.

TOKYO: Prices fell slightly in risk trade due to lack of buying incentives and concern over weakness on Wall Street overnight. The Nikkei index fell 54.67 at 27,912.65.

HONG KONG: Local institutional buying pushed prices past the 2,600 level on the Hang Seng index for the first time since May 4. The index rose 21.95 to 2,608.98.

SINGAPORE: Prices rebounded to close marginally higher across the board on speculative buying and some bargain-hunting in active trading. The Straits Times Industrial index rose 9.32 to 1,040.51.

BOMBAY: Prices closed mixed in alternate bouts of heavy selling and buying when trading resumed after being disrupted for two days. Tata Steel rose 27.5 rupees to 902.5.

FRANKFURT: Shares shrugged off a poor opening to end higher despite fears that yesterday's downward technical reaction would continue. The Commerzbank index, calculated at mid-session, was down 6.8 at 1,398.7.

ZURICH: Prices closed narrowly mixed, with the overnight fall on Wall Street and today's slightly firmer dollar making little impact. The All-Share Swiss index was up 0.4 to 842.

Amadeus officially launched

THE presidents of four European airlines, Air France, Iberia, Lufthansa and SAS, recently ratified an agreement marking the official creation of Amadeus.

To efficiently handle increased traffic loads over more numerous destinations, airlines are depending more and more on computers.

Recognising this trend, Air France approached Lufthansa in Nov 1984 to propose the development of a joint computerised information distribution system.

The goal is to establish a system that would provide members of the travel industry comprehensive information on hotel reservations, car rental, insurance, etc.

In 1987 Iberia and SAS joined the development. The Amadeus system, it is claimed, would become one of the largest information and distribution systems in the world.

Mathews gets NRI of the Year award

Heated discussion on Indian tax laws

By Fathima Ahmed



(L-R) Mohan Menon, Jha, Khanpuri and Basu pictured at the NRI Forum's annual general meeting.

THE chairman of Indian Arts Circle (IAC), M. Mathews, was on Tuesday named NRI of the Year by the NRI Forum, Kuwait. Mathews was given the award for his "dedication and untiring service" for the welfare of the Indian community in Kuwait. The award was presented by Indian Ambassador N.N. Jha at the annual general meeting of the NRI Investors Forum, Kuwait, held at the IAC, Funai.

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Nervous

"The market will continue to be nervous at least until next week's trade figures," said one Frankfurt dealer.

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HONG KONG: Local institutional buying pushed prices past the 2



Brooklyn Bridge across the water: the view induces ecstasy

John Diamond

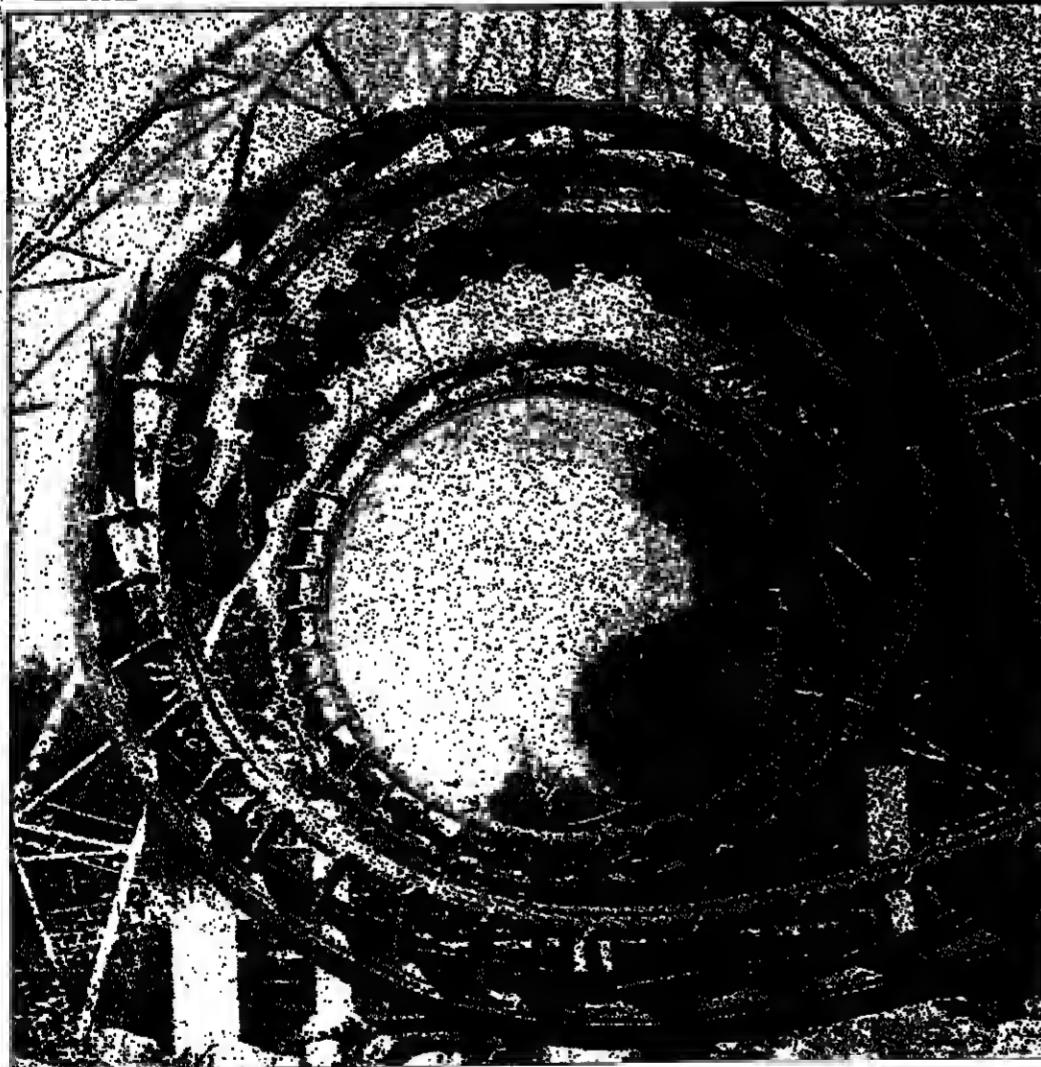
HERE are those, I am told, who fly to California only to ter away their time in the sun lying on the sandy edge of the Pacific wondering if they will ever get around to set

Others — don't laugh — and good money getting to Hollywood just so they can sit in the granite-starred seats of Brando and Astaire. But what about Disneyland? I ask them. What about Magic Mountain, Knott's Berry Farm or Sea World? Not, for heaven's sake, about Old Rivers? "Oh, theme parks," they say. "No, we don't take the kids this time." Just as the Loire is there for chateaux and Venice for its gondolas, so California is there for theme parks. Indeed, California's genius is its ability to turn anything into a theme park.

Hollywood is a filmic theme park, the beached Queen Mary a nautical theme park, the gold bars to the north a prospecting theme park. For Americans within reach of the border, Mexico is the biggest theme park of all. Buses leave every hour for Tijuana so that tourists can eat burritos and huzzahs at the begging children. Foreign tourists and Americans from out of state don't get further than Disneyland, unless it is to go for a minute drive down the freeway to Knott's Berry Farm. Native Californians head for

Theme for a perfect holiday

Just as the Loire is there for its chateaux, and Venice for its canals, so California is there for its theme parks! Disneyland, Magic Mountain, Knott's Berry Farm, Sea World — California's genius is its ability to turn anything into a theme park.



The corkscrew ride at Knott's Berry Farm.

the smaller parks, where the only real thematic connection between one ride and another is the whiteness of knuckles and swiftness of heartbeat. Or they opt for marine theme parks, where dolphins and killer whales do all the cardio-vascular daring.

Trademark

This year, San Diego's Sea World, with its "world-famous" killer whale, Shamu, will be second only to Disneyland as a California attraction.

Shamu, like everything else in theme parks, is a trademark. Park guidebooks, read like trade catalogues, and the commercialisation is rendered all

By Adam Nicolson

WHERE Manhattan comes to its artificial point in Battery Park, built out into the bay after decades of accumulating rubbish from the foundations of buildings to the north, the view induces ecstasy — Brooklyn across the water, Liberty on her island; the sun on the oilers moving out to the Narrows and the Atlantic beyond them. Here the first Dutch settlers in New Amsterdam landed from Europe, and from here they returned. It was known as the Weeping Quay, named after its twin in Holland.

Turn north to the cliff of the business district. It is like an English port town — Chichester, Woodbridge or Whitby — grown big on itself, a freak baby, weighing 20 stone, a little thing thick with elephanthias, the bloated numbers pinned to a fragile structure of winding, narrow streets. Trinity Church at the head of Wall Street, facing the Bank of Tokyo and the Irving Trust Co, sits here as a black little grandmother dwarfed by her shining progeny.

Growth

North of the money belt, moving up Nassau Street, there is a sudden growth of messy shops, selling hiking gear, fishing tackle and hats reduced by 20 per cent. On the street in front of the vent, where the steak-flavoured air is blown out from the restaurant kitchen at passing feet, a man lies whispering about his children and the pencils he has for sale.

For a city so famous for its divisions, there is a curiously easy stirring of categories as you pass from big business to marginal enterprise and on to City Hall, the courts and government offices. Here is one great pleasure of New York: sliding by, the Los Angeles sensation on foot, the sidewalk, the freeway.

Up Centre Street, along the fringe of Chinatown, and then cutting over by Lafayette to the edge of SoHo on Broadway, the girls are all in black; their shoes



are patent, slick but rubber on the sole, and their hair is designer-messy.

The men's necks are shaved to their heads so that if you walk behind them you can see the tendons of the neck moving under the grey screen of bristle, or skin. SoHo is zoned for "Art."

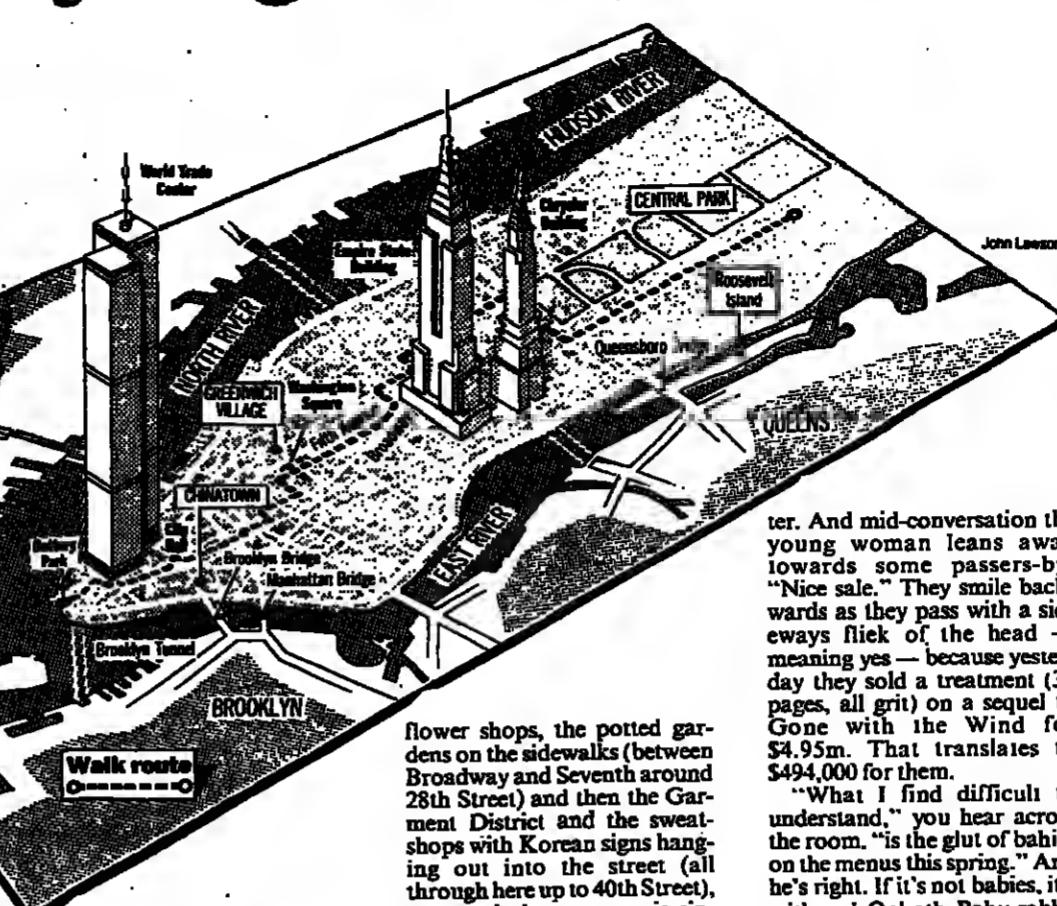
And then, sweetly, most magical of all, the glutinous smell of dry-cleaning fluid, blown in an invisible flag across the sidewalk on the corner of Mercer and Bleecker, on the edge of the Village.

One block on, a blind man, still self-conscious of his look in clothes he cannot see, is led across the ragged intersections by his guide dog.

On these streets — given a fury look by the fire escapes which half hide and half express the buildings on which they grow like stubble — sheltering under some plastic sheeting

New York on foot

Walking in a jungle called Manhattan



flower shops, the ported gardens on the sidewalks (between Broadway and Seventh around 28th Street) and then the garment District and the sweatshops with Korean signs hanging out into the street (all through here up to 40th Street), you reach the porn movie cinemas on Eighth Avenue (XXX-otie XXXeessive XXXtravaganzas).

I had lunch at Jean Lafitte on 68 West 38th Street. It was delicious. A place where authors, wearing consciously ragged jeans and shirts, made sweaty by real life, smile to their litlocked agents smiling across at them, and joke about the age of boyfriends and the problem of always repeating one's father in the boyfriends one chooses.

The agents order the boys lobster because that's what they deserve. Their other acquaintances speak bad French to the waiter from Milwaukee, who speaks had French back until, without laughing, the French breaks down and one asks of the other: "What's the soup anyway?" The answer: "French onion," is also delivered without laugh.

Sliding along, west of Fifth and going north, through the

flower shops, the ported gardens on the sidewalks (between Broadway and Seventh around 28th Street) and then the garment District and the sweatshops with Korean signs hanging out into the street (all through here up to 40th Street), you reach the porn movie cinemas on Eighth Avenue (XXX-otie XXXeessive XXXtravaganzas).

And mid-conversation the young woman leans away towards some passers-by. "Nice sale." They smile back at her as they pass with a sideways flick of the head — meaning yes — because yesterday they sold a treatment (30 pages, all grr) on a sequel to Gone with the Wind for \$4.95. That translates to \$494,000 for them.

"What I find difficult to understand," you hear across the room, "is the glut of babies on the menu this spring." And he's right. If it's not babies, it's withered. Or both. Baby-rabbit ears gathered from the flower-strewn meadows of upstate Quebec, withered in an antique cognac flame and laid on a coronet of faded spinach crests. Or coffee.

And then on and out to the blazing sunshines in this town where you can call a nightclubs Siberia, Heartbreak, King Tut's Wa-Wa Hui, or Downown Beirut, as if these things were not part of the world it lives in, and on this sunlit, husky afternoon the great skyscraping avenues look glamorous in their huge and shadowed darkness.

Cross Fifth Avenue to Madison, you find the overwhitened whiteness of New York skins and those women in their shoulderless suits with exaggerated beautiful calves that emerge tailored from below the tailoring. Block after

block something worried me. There was something almost spookily coherent about the street. What lay behind this moneyed coherence north of 60th Street? And then I realised: it is the only place in the world where the people look like shops. Not like the mannequins or the clothes on display in the shops, but like the shops themselves.

The fashion ideal of Madison Avenue is plate-glass sunglasses, a suit that looks as much as possible like wipe-down tiling and tone-in-grout, the face plastered white, the "ambience," as they might say in Jean Lafitte, exuding wealth despite every effort to deny it.

On 74th and Madison there was grass for sale, mini-prairies in little black pots. On 77th, a Henry Moore shop and then the crusty bread shop and the PS-I-Love-You shop, and the do-your-bedroom-out-in-hair-and-moderne-anglaise-because-you'll-feel-better shop.

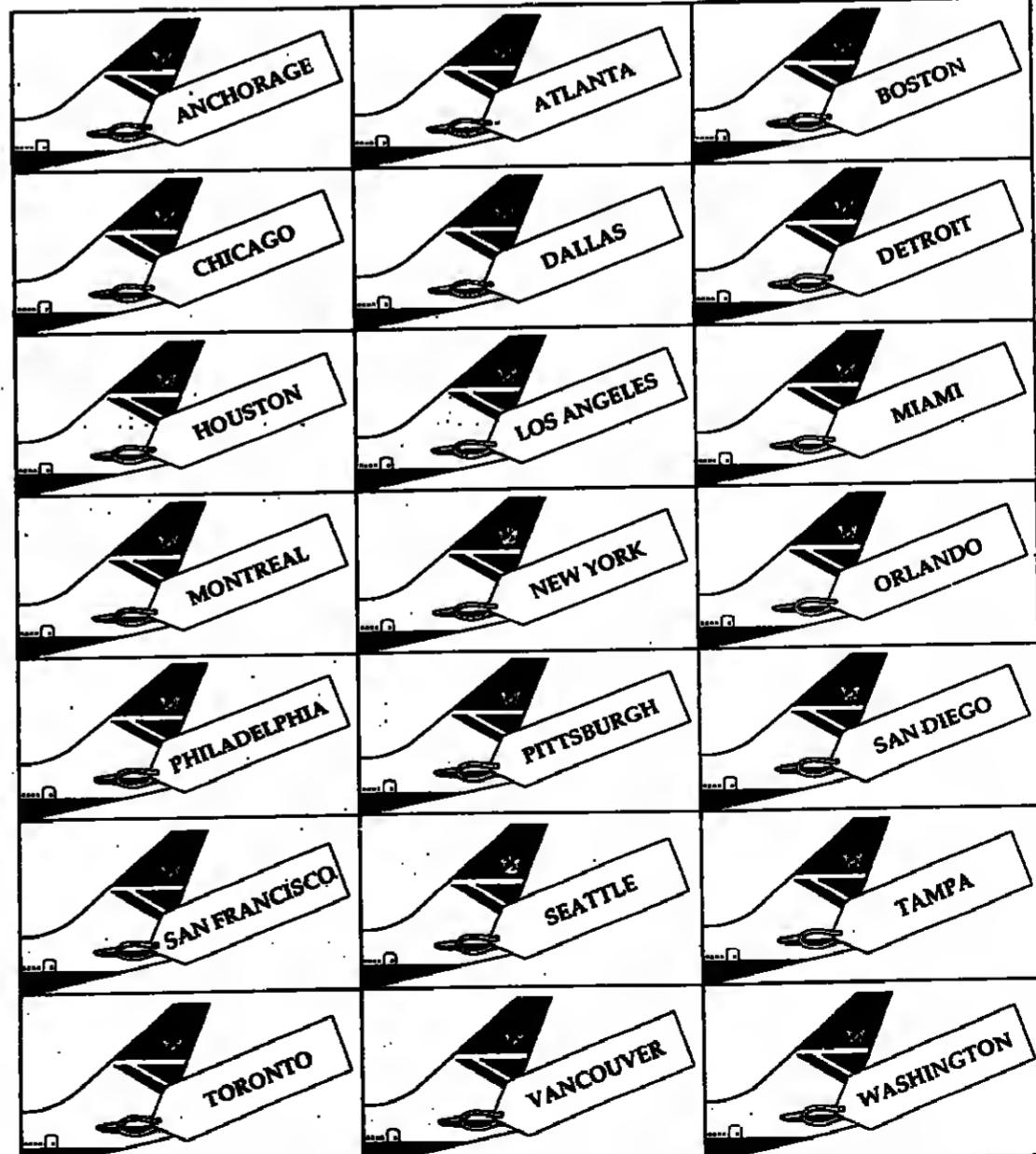
At the end, north of 96th Street, it is not Madison that darkens, but the cross-streets, which empty and roughen, which lose the shine, and are not made-up.

Look back at that lit slot to the south, then bring your eyes lower and down to the street and see the self-sufficiency of prosperous New York mixed with the occasionally flaccid face of the Upper East Side inheritance millionaire.

He wears flat soft shoes, as wide as cars, a wide-fringed tassel laid across them, and has that near-white present in his watery voice of the never-anything-but-joking upper-class American rich.

Standing at the edge of Harlem, in the oily dusk, you will hear the two rhythms of this city, each distinct, each hardly connected with the other: on top, hard, quick, excitable, and vicious, the rhythm of money; below, deeper, slower, scarcely heard unless you listen for it, seeping out like the plumes of steam from the pores in the road, the undertones of sorrow.

We fly more people to more places across the Atlantic than any other airline.



If you're planning a trip to the USA or Canada, there's only one airline to choose — British Airways. Because we fly to a total of 21 North American cities from Heathrow and Gatwick airports. That's over 180 flights a week across the Atlantic in each direction and most are non-stop.

For information and reservations contact your Travel Agent or British Airways on 2425635/67/8.

BRITISH AIRWAYS

The world's favourite airline.

HUMOUR



Rude review

By Kith Wells

ALL this week my name's been mud Letter's to the editor became a flood and all because I wrote a review every word of which was true about a musical that was bloody awful but the cast thinks criticism is unlawful. I must confess I drove thirty miles to see this show, which gave me piles. On Suzi's birthday, for a treat, but when the dancers with leaden feet swayed and hopped around the stage I thought with dread about my page where I would have to tell you all my thoughts about the dodhoppers ball. Then the singers missed their notes and I started making up sour quotes about how they hungered for applause even though the menopause had left them looking quite their age

nothing more certain to enrage the ladies fair of Ahmad who sharpened all their knives for me. Alas, alack, what could I do, tell sweet lies, pretend twas true that Brigadoon was the greatest thing since man or woman learned to sing? Write a review in which I said the show would surely raise the dead? Send all of you out in the night to see the show, would it be right? My review was careful not to name anyone to spare them shame I tried to be as fair as fair and funny as my wit would dare. It simply would not be quite cricket to tell you lies to sell some tickets. Of course the cast were all quite livid because I'd made my views quite vivid, they rang to demand we print their version of the show and cast aspersion on my name and pedigree my taste and my integrity, Oh well, my dears, I'm leaving soon, then you can stage your Brigadoon to your heart's content, and mine I'll say three thousand happy miles away. Not to end on a churlish note, such flops are rare and the antidote is not to shoot the poor reporter who's only doing what he oughter, instead keep going with another show they've had hits before, and I know, that very soon they'll have another for my successor to go and cover.

"DADDY, can we watch baseball on TV?"

"That's a good idea. You'll learn fairness and sportsmanship from it."

"Daddy, why is the manager jumping up and down and waving his arms in front of the home plate?"

"Because he thought his man was safe when the umpire called him out. The manager is very angry, and we might be."

"Look, Daddy, the manager is butting the umpire in the stomach with his head. Is he allowed to do that?"

"The manager was provoked, and while you're not supposed to butt an umpire, you just can't stand there when he calls one of your players out at home plate. Umpires have been getting away with murder lately, and somebody has to say to them, 'Enough is enough. If you can't call a game right, you have to expect to get hurt'."

"Will the official change his mind after he's taken so much punishment?"

"No. And that makes the manager hopping mad. It doesn't matter what kind of case he makes, the ump will just stand there and shake his head. That is why for a baseball manager life is so unfair."

The Art Buchwald Column

Fair is fair

"Why do they have umpires if they're always getting baseball managers mad at them?" "It's an old tradition and no one wants to be the first to break with it. Most fans hate officials and if they had their druthers, they would keep them out of the ball park."

"Why is the umpire pointing toward the tunnel?"

"Because he's kicking the manager out of the game for ramming him in the stomach. Since umpires wear shiny black suits they think they can send managers to the showers any time they feel like it."

"The manager doesn't seem to want to go."

"Of course, he doesn't. No one likes to be sent to the locker room in the middle of a game. But do you think the ump cares? Nosirree. An official will throw you out of the game these days for nothing more than calling him an illegitimate child."

"Why doesn't the umpire allow the manager to explain his side of the story?"

"Well, if the manager told his side of the story, the umpire might have to reverse himself in front of everyone in the park. It would be a public humiliation. Also, umpires hate managers because they make more money."

"Baseball is not the only sport being ruined by officials. Look at hockey. You can't even hit someone in the stands with a hockey stick without a referee making a federal case out of it. And basketball is no better. A coach has to do is throw a chair across a basketball court, at the opposition's cheerleader, and some stuffed-shirt referee will be all over him for unsportsmanlike conduct."

"Tennis used to be a gentlemen's game until every linesman started picking on John McEnroe for no reason at all. Now they won't even let him open his trap without fining him. That's what's wrong with sports. No one is free to do what he wants any more."

"Do you think this baseball game will ever start again?"

"It's hard to tell. I believe the manager is demanding an apology, and that could take a little time."

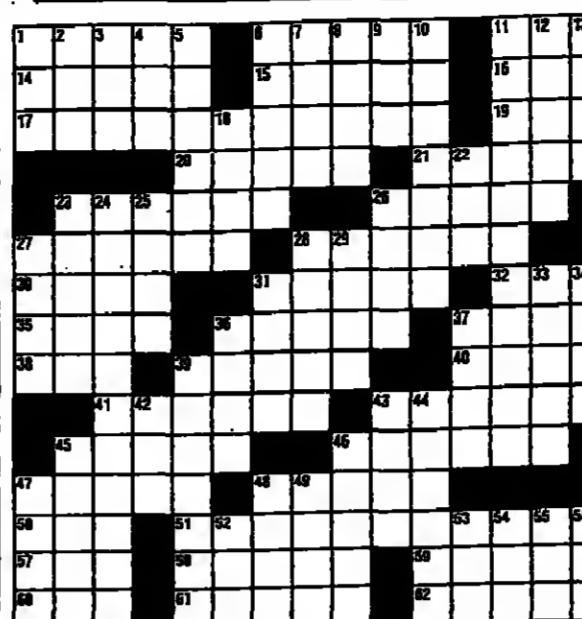
"The fans look like they are on the manager's side."

"Why shouldn't they be? The umpire is lucky they haven't lynched him yet. Mark my words, the officials are trying to gain control of the game so they can appear in TV commercials. It's no wonder the managers feel the cards are stacked against them. Any umpire can send a manager to the showers, while the only defense the poor, helpless baseball managers have is to kick sand in the umpire's face."

1988, Los Angeles Times Syndicate.



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1 Conductor
2 Prevlin
8 Captain shafts
11 "You Never Can Tell" playwright: inits.
14 Loon, for one
15 Softly, in music
16 Taar
17 Plump half of a famous comedy team
18 Bee: Comb. form
20 Loophola
21 Philosopher
22 Roger or Francis
23 Like a three-piece suit waizer?
26 Heartlheaded
27 A Gorgon
28 Scold
30 Advantage
31 Alonso of the ballet, for one
32 Hole-in-one, for example
35 Inlets
36 Mousy half of a famous comedy team
37 Associate
38 TV adjunct
39 Chihuahua chicken
40 Singers' club
41 Word with shop or spot
42 Publish

45 Milk product
48 Will or Ariel
47 Certain pastries
48 Digrassion
50 Work unit
51 Zany half of a famous comedy team
57 M's wife
58 Falacy
59 Butternut and maple
60 Camera shot
61 Dramatist-poet William Butler
62 The ordinante
1 Stir
2 Zero
3 Half of MXII
4 Speed up a motor
5 Sets up
6 Garden pest
7 Changar, today
8 Escapade
9 Fragment
10 Source of tofu
11 Distaff half of a famous comedy team
12 Two-legged support
13 Turn
18 Mother of Zaus
22 Quirk
23 An Indie language
43 Publish

24 Talking half of a famous comedy team
25 Entreats
26 Dog in "King Lear"
27 Talk show host Griffin
28 Stout
29 Zaragoza's river
31 Breton or Gaal
33 Part of a baseball shoe
34 Scrutinized
36 — de fete (holiday, in Le Havre)
37 Home of the Taj Mahal
39 Fabric pattern
42 Salamander
43 Froth
44 Attractive
45 Destiny
46 "New Look" dresses of 1947
47 Weather abbr.
48 Feeling
49 Highlander
52 Unrefined material
53 Stat. for Saberhagen
54 Barker of the movies
55 Part of a Waikiki welcome
58 CIA's predecessor

South West North East
2 Pass 2 Pass
3 Pass 4 Pass
4 NT Pass 5 Pass
6 Pass Pass Dbl
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♦
This hand comes from rubber bridge—nothing other than 150 honors could explain South's determination to rebind his five-card heart suit with his balanced hand. Not that we are enamored with North's decision to respond two spades on his four-card suit either—a value bid of three no trump is more to our liking. East's double was lead-directing, requesting his partner to lead dummy's first-bid suit. Except that his partner had mentioned the denomination first, North could have saved the day by converting to six no trump, a contract that could not be defeated from his side of the table.

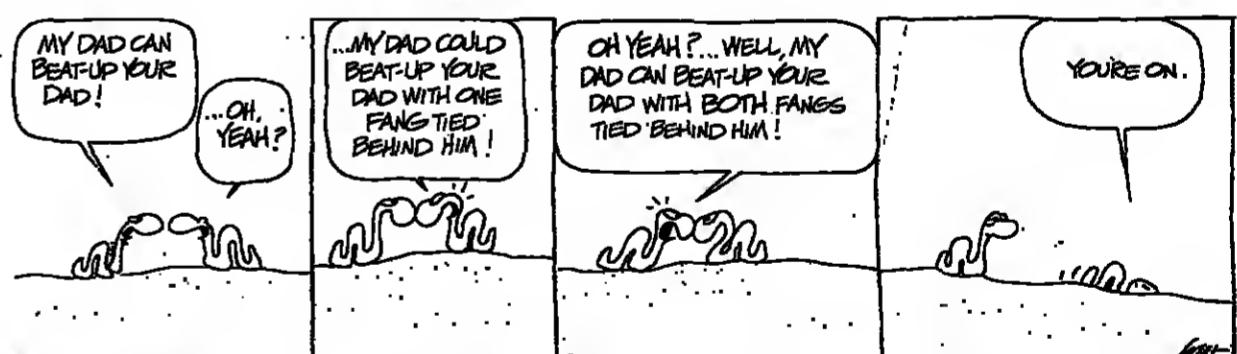
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:
ACADS CANA SHAY
REBEC AGERA AARE
ABASH REST MILA
DUSKIER TEMPLES
RELEASE INE
IMIT SALADOAYS
NEF SAMSONS LAE
GREATNESS CART
NOO LEOPARDIS
OLEARY ESKAR
COLLECT TALARIA
ENTO AERD ACERB
AGOG PLAN CALEB
NANIS PAN ELYSE

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

THE WIZARD OF ID



B.C.



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 19)

You will be able to make good use of all your resources both material and spiritual. You should work hard but not neglect your personal affairs either. Avoid doing something just because others think you ought to do it. Be enterprising.



Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

You should have a little more faith in yourself and confidence in those close to you. You should not try to evade the consequences of your actions. Make sure you express yourself as clearly as possible. Be benevolent.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You will feel like doing something out of the ordinary but should not go to extremes. You should be your own guard when dealing with a salesman. Make sure you have taken all the facts duly into account. Be more tolerant.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You will have to use a bit of willpower if you do not want to lose the impetus. A small obstacle should not be exaggerated. Try to take pleasure in little things. Be more considerate.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will be better able to deal with those small practical matters that cannot be ignored. You should do your best not to make a complicated situation even worse. Make sure you do not get in anyone's way. Be moderate.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You should try not to waste your efforts. Nor should you spend too much time and energy on secondary matters. You will be able to use your personal charm to good effect. Be a little more optimistic.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You will be able to straighten out your ideas on a rather difficult subject. Avoid having a succession of late nights. Do not come in between a friend of yours and his partner. Be more reliable.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You have the wind in your sails but are rather liable to sail off in the wrong direction. There is no need to lose confidence in yourself. You should keep calm when dealing with a nervous or overbearing person. Be firm.

JOHN HART

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS, TRY MAGIC

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♦ A Q 8 4

♥ 6 5

♦ Q 10 3

♣ J 10 6 5

WEST

♦ K J 10 5 3

♥ 9 8 4 3

♦ 9 6 5 2

♣ 8 7 4

♦ Q 9 8 2

SOUTH

♦ 9 7 6

♥ A K Q J 10

♦ A K J

♣ A K

West duly led the two of spades, and it was obvious to all and sundry that it was a singleton. Declarer did not fancy his chances, but he was not prepared to surrender without a fight. He decided to try to put the fact that West held only one spade to good use. He rose with dummy's ace of spades, then drew trumps.

Declarer cashed the ace of clubs and ace of diamonds, then overtook the jack of diamonds with the table's queen. Now he led the jack of clubs and discarded the king of diamonds from hand!

West was helpless. Down to nothing but minor-suit cards, he had no option but to win the queen and then put declarer back in dummy with a minor-suit card. Declarer discarded his two losing spades on the tens of diamonds and clubs, and brought home the slam for the loss of only one club trick.

We don't know who played this hand. If nobody claims it, perhaps we'll pass it off as our own in years to come.



"Good job you backed it each way, Jim—he's running in the opposite direction now."

Tours to political hot spots

Travel club offers bizarre holidays

By Andrew Gumbel

LONDON, (Reuter): Is risking detention in an African prison or witnessing a missile attack in the Gulf war your idea of fun?

A new travel club called "holidays for maniacs" is offering to arrange package tours to do just that, hoping to attract those for whom "getting away from it all" means more than tanning themselves on a beach.

The club, which offers tours to political hot spots in Africa, Central America and the Middle East, is the latest venture launched by Steven Pearce, a 25-year-old entrepreneur with a taste for the bizarre.

His independent record label "some bizarre records" signs bands as likely to play industrial chainaws as guitars, while his art gallery "discreetly bizarre" is a focus for avant-garde painters and sculptors.

Known professionally as Steve, he says: "We always want to be one step ahead of people's expectations. You've got to

keep yourself occupied and you've got to keep yourself entertained."

But isn't it unwise to send people to potential trouble spots?

People say it's dangerous. Well, getting on the Tube (London underground) at 11.30 at night on the wrong side of town can be dangerous, he said.

If people want to travel to Iraq and experience a missile attack — fine. We'll send them there.

The club, which costs 100 pounds sterling (\$185) to join, offers a 10-day tour to North Africa including a stopover in Tripoli, where, their brochure says, "your sightseeing could include exploring the simplicity of life in Libya."

A two-week trip round the Middle East costing 1,300 sterling (\$2500) provides accommodation, travel and food during a trek through Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Iraq.

Pearce said he realised this kind of holiday was not for the unsophisticated traveller, and he plans to brief people before they go.

"We will use our discretion before giving someone a ticket. We're not going to send some 16-year-old who doesn't know what he's doing out there," he said.

He himself is a seasoned traveller with a predilection for unusual destinations. Last Christmas and New Year he and some friends went to Zaire, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

One of his travel companions, artist Andy

Dear Junior Readers,

When the holidays began, how many of you thought that you did not need to open a book until school started again? How many of you watch television for hours and hours every day and think that reading is boring?

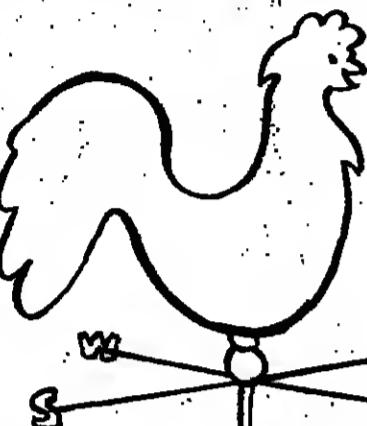
But reading really has a lot to offer: adventure stories; the lives of great men and women in history; facts about our world; knowledge of how people in other countries live; how things were invented; how to do and make things ... the list goes on and on.

So, no more cries of "Mum, I'm bored." Open a book and just see what you will find!

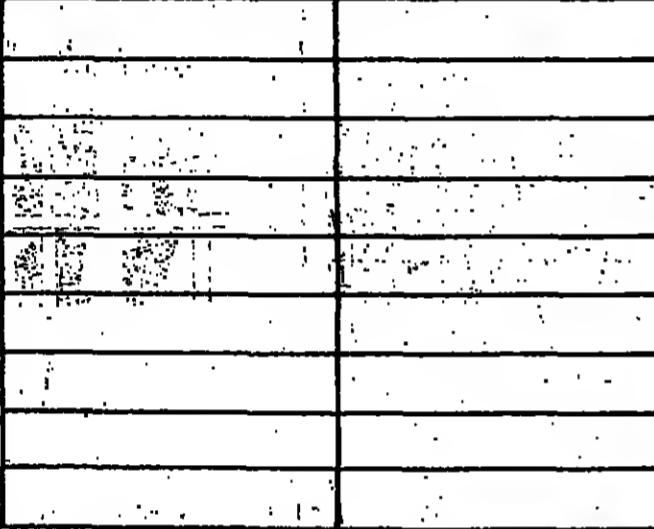
Auntie Jayne

Word search

HOW MANY WORDS CAN YOU MAKE FROM THE WORD -

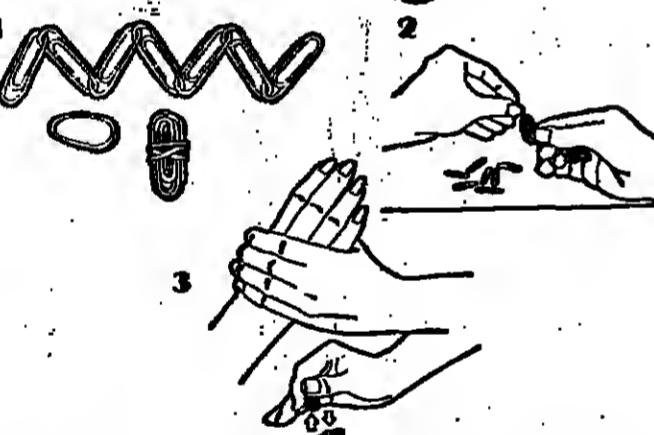


WEATHERCOCK



Solution on Tuesday...

It's magic!



Clipped again

The illusion:
You ask someone to count some loose paperclips, then to bundle them together and wrap a rubber band around them. After the clips are placed under your friend's hand, you snap your magic fingers. When the bundle is unwrapped, the paperclips have magically linked themselves together into a chain.

The preparation:
Find fourteen paperclips and two rubber bands exactly alike. Take seven of the clips and link them into a chain, double them up (accordian pleat them) into the length of one clip, and wrap one of the rubber bands around the bundle. (1) Keep the loose seven clips and the other rubber band in a small dish or box. Conceal the linked bundle of clips in a convenient spot.

The trick:
Dump the loose clips and the rubber band in front of your friend and ask for them to be counted. While the clips are being counted and wrapped with the rubber band you secretly get the linked bundle in your right hand and cradle it in the crook of your last two fingers (2). Pick up the bundle of loose clips that he has just wrapped with the tips of the fingers of the right hand, and at the same time, take the other person's right hand with your left.

"I want you to cover the paperclips with your hand

By Natalie Savage Carlson

ONCE in another time, Jean Labadie was the most popular storyteller in the parish. He acted out every story so that it would seem more real.

When he told about the great falls of Niagara, he made a booming noise deep in his throat and whirled his fists around each other. Then each listener could plainly hear the falls and see the white water churning and splashing as if it were about to pour down on his own head. But Jean Labadie had to stop telling his stories about the loup-garou, that demon who takes the shape of a terrible animal and pounces upon those foolish people who go out alone at night. Every time the storyteller dropped down on all fours, rolled his eyes, snorted, and clawed at the floor, his listeners ran away from him in terror.

It was only on the long winter evenings that Jean had time to tell these tales. All the rest of the year, he worked hard with his cows and his pigs and his chickens.

One day Jean Labadie noticed that his flock of chickens was getting smaller and smaller. He began to suspect that his neighbour, Andre, was stealing them. Yet he never could catch Andre in the act.

For three nights running, Jean took his gun down from the wall and slept in the henhouse with

Jean Labadie's big black dog

his chickens. But the only thing that happened was that his hens were disturbed by having their feeder roost with them; and they stopped laying well. So Jean sighed and put his gun back and climbed into his own bed again.

One afternoon when Jean went to help his neighbour mow the weeds around his barn, he found a bunch of grey chicken feathers near the fence. Now he was sure that Andre was taking his chickens, for all of his neighbour's chickens were scruffy white things.

He did not know how to broach the matter to Andre without making an enemy of him. And when one lives in the country and needs help with many tasks, it is a great mistake to make an enemy of a close neighbour. Jean studied the matter as his scythe went swish, swish through the tall weeds. At last he thought of a way out.

"Have you seen my big black dog, Andre?" he asked his neighbour.

"What big black dog?" asked Andre. "I didn't know you had a dog."

"I just got him from the Indians," said Jean. "Someone has been stealing my chickens so I got myself a dog to protect them. He is a very fierce dog, bigger than a wolf and twice as wild."

Jean took one hand off



the scythe and pointed to the ridge behind the barn.

"There he goes now," he cried, "with his big red tongue hanging out of his mouth. See him!"

Andre looked but could see nothing.

"Surely you must see him. He runs so fast. He lifts one paw this way and another paw that way, just like you say."

Jean was pleased that he was such a good actor he could make Andre see a dog that didn't exist at all.

"Now that you have seen him," he said, "you will know him if you should meet him. Give him a wide path and don't do anything that will make him suspicious. He is very fierce when he is watching."

Andre looked at the black gloves going up and down like the paws of a big black dog. Then he looked toward the ridge. He grew

excited.

"Yes, yes," he cried. "I do see him now. He is running along the fence. He lifts one paw this way and another paw that way, just like you say."

Jean was pleased that he was such a good actor he could make Andre see a dog that didn't exist at all.

"Now that you have seen him," he said, "you will know him if you should meet him. Give him a wide path and don't do anything that will make him suspicious. He is very fierce when he is watching."

Andre promised to stay a safe distance from the big black dog.

Jean Labadie was proud

of himself over the success of his trick. No more chickens disappeared. It seemed that his problem was solved.

Then one day Andre greeted him with, "I saw your big black dog in the road today. He was running along lifting one paw this way and another paw that way. I got out of his way, you can bet my life!"

Jean Labadie was pleased and annoyed at the same time. Pleased that Andre believed so completely in the big black dog that he actually could see him. He was also annoyed because the big black dog had been running down the road when he should have been on the farm.

Another day Andre leaned over the fence.

"Good day, Jean Labadie," he said. "I saw your big black dog on the other side of the village. He was jumping over fences and bushes. Isn't it a bad thing for him to wander so far away? Someone might take him for the loup-garou."

Jean Labadie was disgusted with his neighbour's good imagination.

"Andre, I asked, 'how can my dog be on the other side of the village when he is right here at home? See him walking through the yard, lifting one paw this way and another paw that way?'

Andre looked in Jean's yard with surprise.

"Aod so he is," he agreed. "My faith, what a one he is! He must run like lightning to get home so fast. Perhaps you should chain him up. Someone will surely mistake such a fast dog for the loup-garou."

Jean shrugged hopelessly.

"All right," he said. "Perhaps you are right. I will chain him near the henhouse."

"They will be very happy to hear that in the village," said Andre. "Everyone is afraid of him. I have told them all about him, how big and fierce he is, how his long red tongue hangs out of his mouth and how he lifts one paw this way and another paw that way."

Jean was angry.

"I would thank you to leave my dog alone, Andre Drouillard," he said stiffly.

"Oh, ho, and that I do!" retorted Andre. "But today on the road he growled and snapped at me. I would be here to tell the story, if I hadn't taken to a tall maple tree."

Jean Lahadie pressed his lips together.

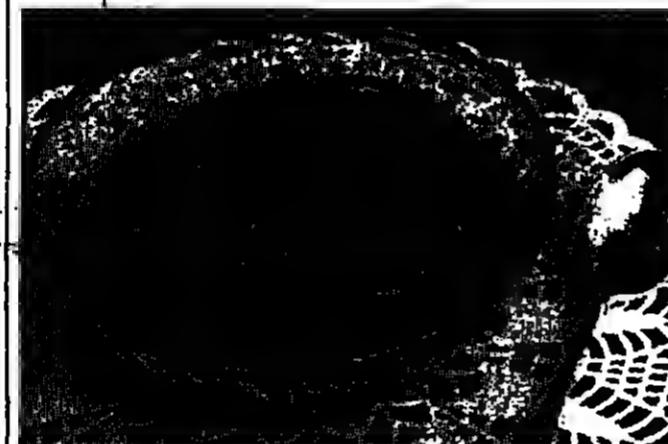
"Then I will chain him up this very moment." He gave a long low whistle. "Come, fellow! Here, fellow!"

Andre Drouillard took to his heels.

Of course, this should have ended the matter, and Jean Labadie thought that it had. But one day when he went to the village to buy some oaks for his roof, he ran into Madame Villeneuve in a great how-does-it-make-of excitement.

(To be continued on Tuesday)

Chocolate mousse



Ingredients

2 eggs
50g (2 oz) chocolate

Equipment

Plate
Small pan
Whisk
Small basin
Mixing bowl
Tablespoon
2 small serving dishes

1. Half fill pan with water and allow to boil. Turn off heat.

2. Break chocolate into pieces, and put in small basin. Place basin over hot water, making sure basin does not touch water.

3. Carefully separate eggs. Place whites in mixing bowl and yolks on

plate.

4. Whisk whites until they stand in firm peaks.

5. Remove basin from pan. Stir egg yolks into chocolate.

6. Add chocolate mixture to egg whites, and fold in very lightly with tablespoon or knife. If mixed too much the mousse will not set.

7. Pour into dishes. Leave in cool place to set.

Chocolate Mousse when set can be decorated with: a small amount of grated chocolate; angelica leaves and cherry flowers (a glace cherry cut into 8 makes the flowers, with leaves cut from thin strips of angelica).

Answers to Tuesday's general knowledge quiz.

1. Cinderella. 2. A bicycle. 3. The penny-farthing had one large wheel in front and a small wheel behind. 3. Spain. The castles are small, usually wooden or ivory, instruments rattled in the hands. 4. (I) Aphrodite. (II) Apple. 5. (I) A machine in which clay is mixed with water. 6. (I) The first of July. 7. Fireworks. 8. Dickens. 9. Nile. 10. Cedars (of Lebanon). 11. Beethoven. 12. Moscow. 13. Fifty. 14. 21st. 15. Tokyo. 16. Charles Lindbergh. 17. Sargasso Sea. 18. Six. 19. X-ray. 20. Uncle Sam.

Solution to Tuesday's crossword

Across: 1. Pal, 4. Chart, 7. Way, 8. Pty, 9. Lampy, 10. Process, 14. Across, 15. Boo, 17. Core, 18. White, 19. Wet. Down: 1. Paper, 2. Awt, 3. Layer, 5. House, 6. Rapid, 10. Porch, 11. Outer, 12. Elbow, 13. Foot, 16. Ore.

Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS



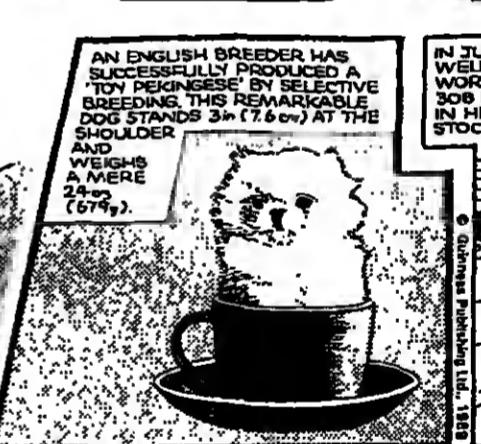
THE EUROPEAN RABBIT (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) FROM WHICH THE DOMESTIC RABBIT IS DERIVED. IT IS NATIVELY A NATIVE OF THE IBERIAN PENINSULA AND HAS BEEN REARED IN A DOMESTIC CAPTIVITY SINCE AT LEAST 2000 YEARS. THE FIRST RABBIT TO INHABIT BRITAIN WERE INTRODUCED BY THE NORMANS IN THE 11th CENTURY.



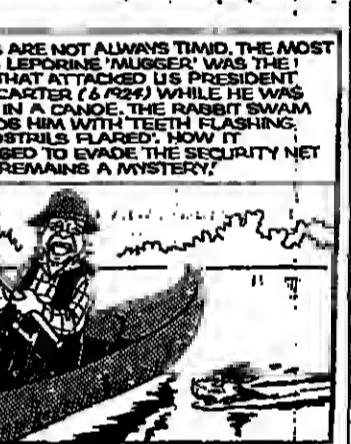
THE LARGEST RABBIT EVER FOUND IS THE LOP FAMILY, WHERE THE RABBIT'S WEIGHTS EXCEEDING 30kg (70lb) HAVE BEEN RECORDED.



THE HEAVIEST DOG EVER RECORDED IS LA-SUSA, AN OLD ENGLISH MASTIFF OWNED BY MR. J. R. GRADIES OF LONDON. IN SEPT. 1974, THE DOG TIPPED THE SCALES AT 22st 6lb 15oz (144kg). HIS SIGHT WEIGHT WAS 35lb (15.9kg). CHEST GIRTH 52", CHEST DEPTH 34", NECK 34" (87.7cm).



AN ENGLISH BREEDER HAS SUCCESSFULLY PRODUCED A 'TOP PERFORMER' DOG. SINCE BREEDING THIS REMARKABLE DOG STANDS 3ft (7.6cm) AT THE SHOULDER AND WEIGHS A MERE 22st 6lb 15oz (144kg).



IN JUNE 1979, MR. JACK STOLTZ OF WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON, SET A WORLD RECORD WHEN HE UNCOVERED 305 DOG BONES WEIGHING 10lb (4.5kg) IN HIS BACKPACK BY HIS DOG, A GRADOR RETRIEVER 'HAPPY'.



Where was the first potato found?
In the ground.

What is a caterpillar after it is three days old?
Four days old.

Which side of a hen has most feathers?
The outside.

Why do insects hum?
They don't know the words.

What word is always spelled incorrectly?
Incorrectly.

How can you find a liar out?
Visit his home when he's not in.

When the first mountains were formed

As it gradually cooled, the magma solidified on the surface and the Earth became covered with a crust of primeval rocks, mainly consisting of granite and basalt. These rocks encased our globe like a rigid shell, while inside it continued to be burning hot.

When the Earth cooled still more it shrank, and the rocky layer which covered it had to contract, like an apple whose skin wrinkles as it withers.

The shell of primeval rocks wrinkled and folded under the strong lateral pressures caused by this shrinking. In some places it sank into the underlying magma; in others it rose up towards the sky.

That is how the first mountains were formed but there is no trace of them left today. Countless disturbances over the ages have completely destroyed them. The mountains we admire today are from later periods and in some cases are comparatively recent.

When coal was formed

THE first living beings to succeed in leaving the sea and adapting themselves to life in the air were the algae, simple water-dwell-



ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION

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ONE room, independent or sharing accommodation, preferably with tele, for a bachelor, with an Indian family. Tele. Tony, 4739515, 8 am - 3 pm. (AT5-42653-3)

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MISHRIF, Surra, Salwa, Deluxe, CAC independent floor of a villa with private entrance, comprising 3 bedrooms, living and dining area, 2 bathrooms and a large fitted kitchen. Rent KD350. tele. 538120, 5382763. (AT5-42639-3)

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DASMA, two rooms available for a couple or working girls. Tele. Sabir, 4816237 after 4.30 pm, Saeed, 2403097 off. (AT5-42673-3)

DAIYA, Block 4 Street 42, 3 rooms for bachelors or working ladies to share with a Pakistani family. Tele. Rana, 2529055. (AT5-42655-3)

WARWANIYA, behind Holiday Inn, Gamma Restaurant, Building 4, 1st floor. Flat 6, 2 bedroom flat for one or two bachelors to share with a R.C. family. Please contact personally. (AT5-42677-2)

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SALMIYA, Hamad Al Mubarak Street, near Farah Center. One big room for couple or 3 working ladies. Bus routes 505, 30, 109, 15, 14, 19. Rent KD75 with water and electricity. Tele. Sonia, 2468307, 9 am to 1 pm. (AT5-42626-3)

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SPORTS

BASEBALL
ROUNDUPMaddux
takes Cubs
past Pirates

EW YORK, June 8. (AP): Greg Maddux' luck, and pitching, are getting better all the time. Maddux became the National League's first 10-game winner as Chicago Cubs defeated Pittsburgh 8-3 last night.

Maddux, 10-3, allowed eight runs in 7 1/3 innings to beat the team for the first time in his career after five defeats. Maddux and New York's Dwight Gooden had been tied for the NL lead in victories with nine.

Maddux, who was 6-14 with a .361 earned run average last season, tied Greg Swindell of Cleveland for the Major League lead in victories.

Elsewhere, it was Philadelphia 5, Montreal 5; St Louis 4, New York 1; San Diego 6, Cincinnati 5; Los Angeles 2, and San Francisco 5, Atlanta 0.

After the seventh inning, Cleveland's Scott Bailes had lost no-batter and gained some experience.

The left-hander had held the Toronto Blue Jays hitless through six innings last night and was ahead 3-0. He retired the first two batters in the seventh but

second baseman Julio Franco dropped George Bell's bloop to shallow right for a two-base error. Bailes hit Fred McGriff with a pitch and gave up an RBI single to Kelly Gruber. A two-

run single by Cecil Fielder tied the game.

"I feel I've improved a lot this year," said Bailes, who ended up with a three-hitter as the Indians came back to win 5-3 on Cory Snyder's ninth-inning bomer.

Last year, if that would've happened in the seventh inning, I might not have lasted the inning, let alone the game. I've settled down emotionally."

Elsewhere in the American League, it was New York 4, Boston 3; Baltimore 4, Detroit 3; Chicago 10, Minnesota 8; Kansas City 6, Oakland 0; California 5, Texas 0, and Seattle 5, Milwaukee 4.

Yankees 4, Red Sox 3

Rickey Henderson hit a run-

scoring single and started a sen-

atorial double play in the eighth

inning as New York beat Boston,

hours after baseball commis-

sioner Peter Ueberroth ended the

bad between Yankees manager

Billy Martin and umpires.

Martin, who stayed off the

field Monday night under threat of instant ejection, left the

dugout four times without

incident.

White Sox 10, Twins 8

Harold Baines' homer and

Mike Woodard's two-run triple

highlighted a seven-run seventh

inning as Chicago defeated Min-

nesota. Baines hit the first triple

off reliever Keith Atherton, 4-3,

for his seventh homer of the year.

Dan Pasqua, who had homered

earlier, hit an RBI single to put

Chicago ahead 5-4.

Royals 6, Athletics 0

Ted Power scattered nine hits and George Brett and Danny Tartabull homered on con-

secutive pitches as Kansas City

shot out Oakland for the second

consecutive game.

Angels 1, Rangers 0

Chuck Finley and Bryan

Harvey combined on a five-hitter

and Brian Downing homered in

the sixth inning as California

shut out Texas. Finley, 4-7, all-

owed five hits, struck out seven

and walked "none" before being

relieved by Harvey with two outs

in the top of the ninth and run-

ners on first and third.

DANTLEY LEADS SCORING WITH 34 POINTS

Pistons stun Lakers in NBA finals

LOS ANGELES, June 8. (Reuters): The underdog Detroit Pistons out-shot and out-hustled the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers last night to win the opening game of the best-of-seven National Basketball Association finals 105-93.

The Pistons, making their first appearance in the finals since 1956 when they were based in Flint, Wayne, Indiana, jumped out to a quick 8-0 lead in the first two minutes of the game.

The Lakers were able to close the gap midway through the period and trailed by only one point, 22-21, at the end of the first quarter.

Outscored

Detroit blew the game open in the second quarter, however, when they outscored the five-time NBA champions 35-19.

The Pistons had already built up an 11-point lead as the final seconds of the first half ticked off.

With five seconds left in the half, Detroit centre Bill Laimbeer launched a three off an inbound pass from Los Angeles centre Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and hit another three pointer at the buzzer to open up a 17-point, 57-40 lead at half. It was the Lakers' worst half-time deficit of the season.



Pistons' Dennis Rodman (No. 10) puts a rebound away from Lakers' Abdul-Jabbar and right, Pistons' Adrian Dantley drives past Lakers' Green. (Reuters wirephoto)

Detroit's veteran forward Adrian Dantley terrorised A.C. Green all night, scoring almost at will. He missed only two of 16

shots from the floor and led all scorers with 34 points, 22 in the second half.

"We're treating each game as

if it's game seven," Dantley said after the victory.

This was only the second

playoff loss for the Lakers at

Kostadinova and Donkova shine

PARIS, June 8. (Reuters): World champion Stefka Kostadinova gave a clear warning yesterday that she is ready to lift the high-jump gold medal at the Seoul Olympics.

The long-legged Bulgarian outclassed the field at the Denia international athletics meeting on the outskirts of Paris, to win her event with a leap of two metres.

Three attempts at 2.04 metres to beat the best jump so far this year of 2.03, set by Kostadinova herself, all failed. But the last leap was tantalisingly close and the Bulgarian, who holds the world record at 2.09, could be pleased enough.

Only American Louise Ritter, who cleared 1.97 metres, was able to mount any sort of challenge.

Equally impressive at the

meeting, one of the three major athletics gatherings staged in France each year, was the Jamaican sprinter, Merlene Ottey.

Running in an eye-catching pink leotard, she took the 100 metres in 11.00 seconds, finishing five metres ahead of nearest pursuer Marie-Jose Perec of France.

Complex

Ottey, third in the Rome World Championships and at the Los Angeles Olympics in both 100 and 200 metres, is keen to rid herself of the bronze complex. Running against a slight headwind, her time was only 0.14 seconds outside the best so far this year.

Ottey said: "I am very happy with the time, I didn't start very well but I picked up towards the

end."

Apart from Kostadinova, three other world champions from Rome were present.

Unhappily, injured Billy Connolly was restricted to urging on his Kenyan compatriots from the sidelines in the 800 metres.

But triple jump champion Khris Markov delighted the big crowd with some 17-metre plus leaps and Bulgarian compatriot Ginka Zagorcheva qualified for the finals of the women's 100 metres hurdles with the minimum of fuss.

Local Hero Gilles Quennerve, who all but deprived American Calvin Smith of the world 200 metres title in Rome, beat a good class field here, bolding on 20.49 seconds from Cuba's Roberto Hernandez, earlier winner of the 400 metres in 45.36.

Aouita strolls to mile victory

MADRID, June 8. (Reuters): World 5,000-metre champion Said Aouita of Morocco strolled to victory in the mile event, beating compatriot Brahim Boudaib at a Madrid athletics meeting yesterday.

The two Moroccans led the main pack for most of the race, keeping in touch with an early break by Denmark's Mogens Guldberg. Aouita sprinted the final straight but had a slower

than expected time of three minutes, 58.27 seconds. Dutchman Han Kukler was a close third.

Sure

A powerful late surge in the 100 metres gave world 200-metre champion Calvin Smith of the United States victory over Canada's Desai Williams, who seemed a sure winner as he approached the tape a metre clear.

American long-jumper Larry

Myricks won applause as the only athlete to clear eight metres.

He did it three times to win the event with 8.25 metres. Spaniard Antonio Gorgos was second with 7.87 metres.

In the high jump, world champion and record holder Patrick Sjoberg of Sweden had little competition, leaping 2.13 metres for an easy win ahead of West German Carlo Tranhart with 2.25.

Spinks will beat Tyson, says Ali

WASHINGTON, June 8. (AP): Former heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali said yesterday that Michael Spinks will take the title from Mike Tyson when the two meet in Atlantic City on June 27.

"Spinks has the speed and he is fast on his feet," said Ali who was visiting the Capitol. "He'll keep away, build up points and wait for a decision."

Asked if he didn't think there would be a knockout, Ali said: "It will go to a decision."

Hearns will fight again

LAS VEGAS, June 8. (Reuters): Just a few days after losing his World Boxing Council (WBC) middleweight crown, Thomas Hearns said yesterday he would fight again to get it back.

Iran Barkley scored a stunning upset when he survived a fierce no-undoing by Hearns and demolished his fellow-American in the third round of their title fight on Monday night.

"For me life is hard without the title," said the 29-year-old Hearns. "It's only been 24 hours (actually 14) and I'm missing it. Not having the title is the worst

thing in the world.

"I'm not feeling my best. I'm not feeling my worst. But I want my title back."

Hearns won the WBC middleweight crown last year to become the only fighter in boxing history to win titles in four weight divisions.

Promoter Bob Arum said the contract between Hearns and Barkley called for a rematch, but not immediately.

He said the WBC would have to agree to Barkley fighting Hearns in his first defence, but added he would be shocked if the council balked.

Small takes seven wickets as Notts crash for 44

LONDON, June 8. (Reuters): Barbados-born paceman Gladstone Small captured a career-best seven for 15 yesterday as Warwickshire routed English county cricket champions Nottinghamshire for 44, the lowest score of the season.

Small, the England fast-medium bowler who was making his first championship appearance for a month because of a thigh injury, fired his adopted county to victory by 161 runs at Edgbaston.

Contention

Former paceman Phil Newport shared the spotlight with the best figures of his career, eight for 52, as Worcestershire pulled off a 209-run victory over Middlesex at Lord's to go to the top of the table.

Small, whose injury ruled him out of contention for a place in the first Test against West Indies which ended at Trent Bridge yesterday, exploited unreliable bounce by hitting the stumps three times and having two lbw successes.

He beat his previous best of seven for 42 for South Australia against New South Wales in 1985-86.

Notts, needing 206 to win, were dismissed in 87 minutes, only six days after making the season's previous lowest of 65 against Kent at Dartford. It was Notts' sixth defeat in eight cham-

pship games so far.

Newport beat his previous

best of six for 48 against Hampshire two years ago after both Worcestershire and Middlesex leaders at the start of the current round of games, each forfeited an innings to their rain-hit match.

Chasing a target of 178, Derbyshire needed two runs from the final delivery by paceman Tony Pigott and Sharma offered a sharp chance to Allan Green at second slip as Derbyshire scraped home for their second win of the season.

Derbyshire completed a seven-wicket win over Somerset in a thrilling finish at Horsham where Kenyan-born Reg Sharma bit the winning runs off the last ball of the match.

At Edgbaston: Warwickshire beat Nottinghamshire by 161 runs. Warwickshire 300 for eight declared in 98.2 overs and 111 for four declared, (C. Madon 48). Warwickshire 250 for 82 declared in 94.2 overs and 271 for six (C. Tavaré 129 not out, C. Cowdrey 49). Kent 21 points Glamorgan one.

At Liverpool: Lancashire beat Hampshire by four wickets. Lancashire 320 for six declared in 124 overs and 152 for five (P. Smith 124 not out), Lancashire 251 for five declared in 87.1 overs and 255 for six (M. Watkinson 73 not out, T. Jetty 60). Lancashire 21 points Hampshire four.

At Hove: Derbyshire beat Sussex by one wicket. Sussex 272 in 103.2 overs and 155 for 4 (P. Parker 48, A. Pigott 45 not out, O. Mortenssen four for 57). Derbyshire 250 in 80 overs and 170 for nine (J. Morris 71). Derbyshire 22 points, Sussex seven.

Results

At Taunton: Northamptonshire beat Somerset by seven wickets. Somerset 215 in 63.4 overs and 178. Northamptonshire 260 in 93 overs and 134 for three (W. Larkins 31 not out). Northamptonshire 223 points, Somerset six.

At Lord's: Warwickshire beat Middlesex by 10 wickets. Warwickshire 333 for eight declared in 110 overs and second innings forfeited. Middlesex first innings forfeited and 124 (P. Newport eight for 52). Warwickshire 19 points, Middlesex three.

At Edgbaston: Warwickshire beat Nottinghamshire by 161 runs. Warwickshire 300 for eight declared in 98.2 overs and 111 for four declared, (J. Love 93 not out, A. Metcalfe 37, M. Monson 44). Warwickshire 342 for four declared in 101 overs. Surrey eight points, York-

shire 12 points, Glamorgan 11.

At Harrogate: match drawn. Yorkshire 142 in 58.1 overs and 310 for six declared (J. Love 93 not out, A. Metcalfe 37, M. Monson 44). Surrey 342 for four declared in 101 overs. Surrey eight points, York-

shire 12 points, Glamorgan 11.</p

SPORTS BRIEFS

Milk race

SHEFFIELD, England, June 8. (AP): Graeme Miller of New Zealand scored his second consecutive stage victory, but Ivan Ivanov of the Soviet Union maintained his overall lead in cycling's Milk race yesterday.

French team

FRANSCHHOEK, South Africa, June 8. (Reuter): A French rugby team, whose visit to South Africa has been condemned in Paris, won the first match of its tour 27-18 (halftime 18-12) against a local invitation side last night.

Baseball boss

NEW YORK, June 8. (Reuter): Peter Ueberroth said yesterday that he will step down as commissioner of Major League baseball at the completion of his initial five-year term at the end of 1989.

National study

NEW YORK, June 8. (AP): Most American parents believe sports are as important for their daughters as their sons, according to a national study released yesterday. Eighty-seven percent of the parents surveyed said they agreed that "sports are equally important for boys and girls."

French sailors

PLYMOUTH, England, June 8. (AP): French sailors, led by Olivier Moussy, continued to dominate the Caribelle single-handed transatlantic yacht race yesterday, although one leading contender from France had to retire.

Woosnam hurt

OSWESTRY, England, June 8. (Reuter): Ian Woosnam, the world's best golfer in 1987, has suffered a wrist injury at his home here and will probably miss next week's US Open at Brookline, Massachusetts.

Bologna tennis

BOLOGNA, Italy, June 8. (Reuter): Unforced errors cost Argentine veteran Guillermo Vilas a place in the second round of the Bologna international tennis tournament when he lost 6-2, 1-6, 7-6 to Ricky Osterhout of West Germany yesterday.

Yugoslav coach

BELGRADE, June 8. (Reuter): Mima Jausovec, Yugoslavia's most successful female tennis player, has been appointed national women's team coach, replacing Jelena Gencic.

IOC chief

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, June 8. (AP): Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) said yesterday he is "not very optimistic" about North Korea's participation in the Seoul Olympics and renewed an offer for a last-minute visit to mediate over its co-hosting demand.

Cup qualifiers

MONTEVIDEO, June 8. (Reuter): Oscar Washington Tabarez will coach South American champions Uruguay in their World Cup qualifying matches next year, the Uruguayan Football Association said yesterday.

French striker

BORDEAUX, France, June 8. (UPI): French international striker Jose Toure was driving without a licence when he allegedly caused an accident that injured three people over the weekend, officials said yesterday.

Dunlop banned

LONDON, June 8. (UPI): Five times Formula One motorcycling world champion Joe Dunlop yesterday was banned from driving on the Isle of Man for 18 months after admitting a drunk driving charge.

Steffi Graf

LONDON, June 8. (UPI): West German Steffi Graf, who has just retained her French Open title, yesterday was given a wild card entry to the mixed doubles event at the Wimbledon tennis championships, June 20 to July 3, with her Czechoslovak partner Pavel Slozil.

Argentina captain

BUENOS AIRES, June 8. (Reuter): Flanker Jorge Allen will captain the Argentine Rugby Union team in the two-Test series against France this month, the Argentine rugby union said.

Games qualifier

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia, June 8. (AP): Zaire came from behind to beat France 52-50 in a Group B match of the 18-nation Olympics women's basketball qualifying round here yesterday. Zaire led 31-29 at halftime.

STAGE SET FOR EUROPEAN SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP

Gullit gets chance to take Maradona's crown

DUESSELDORF, West Germany, June 8. (Reuter): Ruud Gullit, the dreadlocked Dutchman who has inspired a renaissance of the Netherlands' imaginative and free-flowing soccer, will be acclaimed the world's top player if he leads them to victory in the European Championship finals.

Four years after Michel Platini took France to triumph, Gullit has taken over his mantle as Europe's outstanding player and ousted Argentine Diego Maradona as the most-feted foreigner in the tough Italian League.

Success in the highly-competitive and evenly-matched eight-nation tournament which begins here on Friday will lift him above Maradona as the world's leading talent and establish the Netherlands once again as the most-tactically-innovative team of their generation.

Although every team has equal justification in claiming they will win the Henri Delaunay trophy, it is the Dutch who have captured the imagination with the dazzling improvisation of their play.

In European Player of the Year Gullit, a goalscoring forward with the all-round skills on home soil, his nation's third in this tournament.

But for the Dutch, and their army of fans whose massive presence has contributed to fears for the safety of the tournament itself, nothing would be sweeter than a revenge victory over the Germans in the final in Munich on June 25.

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Gullit: Europe's top player

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recalls the 1982 World Cup final in Madrid.

Both teams have been rebuilt by new management since then — Italy under Azeglio Vicini and West Germany under Beckenbauer, who guided them to the 1986 World Cup final in Mexico.

The Italians, with the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy in mind, have concentrated on

creating a young team and have

discovered a formidable striker in Gianluca Vialli, who has

added a cutting edge to their

traditionally-hard defence.

Built round a nucleus of hardened veterans from their 1986 World Cup campaigns, they have established patterns of play, experienced coaches in West German Sepp Piontek and

Miguel Munoz respectively and all the necessary mental toughness, but may lack punch in attack.

Their meeting in Hanover on Saturday — a re-run of their semifinal clash in 1984 and dramatic World Cup encounter in Mexico two years ago — could be decisive.

After two defeats by Spain, the Danes are determined to change their fortunes. An opening victory could be enough to galvanise them into reaching the last four again.



Lineker: England depend on him

West Germany, by contrast, appear to have lost their way on the run-in to the finals and Beckenbauer knows anything less than a semifinal place could cost him his job.

Denmark and Spain, the other teams in Group One, are old rivals and both are capable of producing upsets.

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Brazil and Yugoslavia

qualify

SEOUL, June 8. (Reuter): Brazil and Yugoslavia, silver and bronze medalists respectively in the 1984 Olympic soccer competition, were placed in the same group for the Seoul Games when the draw was made today.

They will meet in Group D, which also includes Australia and Nigeria. But with two teams going through to the quarterfinals from each of the four groups, Brazil and Yugoslavia could both reach the Olympic final on October 1.

Made

France, the reigning Olympic champions, failed to qualify for Seoul.

The draw for the group matches, which will be played in Seoul and four provincial cities between September 17 and 22, was made by the president of the International Football Federation (FIFA), Joao Havelange.

FIFA had decided to keep apart teams from the same continent in the group games.

An exception was made for Europe which had five qualifiers. So West Germany and Sweden will meet in Group A, which also includes China and Tunisia.

South Korea, finalists in the 1986 World Cup in Mexico, were the only side to be seeded. FIFA bowed to a request from the host nation to head Group C and play all their matches in the southern port city of Pusan.

But they were unlucky with the

Netherlands against England in Duesseldorf on June 15 overshadowed all else because of the threat of hooliganism.

But the elegant Dutch are more likely to be matched on the pitch in Group Two by the Soviet Union, who eliminated France in the qualifiers, than England.

Like the Danes, and to some extent the English, the European finals offer the Soviet team a last chance to fulfil the promise they first revealed in Mexico two years ago.

With players of the quality of Vassily Rats, Alexander Zavarov and Igor Belanov, they could reach the last four and even possibly their final.

Ireland, making their first appearance, complete the group. They should not be dismissed lightly following a run of 10 games without defeat under English coach Jack Charlton.

A World Cup-winning player in 1966, Charlton has instilled unprecedented discipline and urgency into the skilful Irish, but their lack of experience is likely to be exposed.

Semifinals

That being so, the Netherlands are likely to be joined in the semifinals by the winners of the final group game between Mexico World Cup quarterfinalists England and the Soviet Union.

England, so dependant upon the goalscoring skills of Gary Lineker, on target 26 times in 32 internationals, and fellow-striker Peter Beardsley, were the highest-scoring team in the qualifiers.

But they will miss injured central defender Terry Butcher and may also lack the tactical and technical subtlety to outwit the Soviet Union.



Schuster joins Real in \$6m deal

MADRID, June 8. (Reuter): West German midfielder Bernd Schuster has joined Spanish League champions Real Madrid for three years in \$6 million deal.

Real Madrid president Ramon Mendoza announced the move yesterday, confirming months of rumour that Schuster would join Real after saying a year ago he would not renew his contract with arch-rivals Barca.

Clashes

Schuster, 28, spent the last eight years with Barcelona where he had several problems, clashing with coaches, players and club president Jose Luis Nunez.

During the European Cup final against Romania's Steaua Bucharest in Seville two years ago, he stormed home from the stadium after being substituted by Barcelona's coach at that time, Terry Venables. Barcelona lost the match on penalties.

Nunez kept him on the bench throughout the 1984-85 season and Schuster refused to renew his contract.

The West German would not comment on investigations into his alleged tax evasion. Schuster, along with Nunez, was charged two weeks ago by a judge who claimed he failed to pay 6.6 million pesetas (\$60,000) in tax between 1983 and 1986.

Mayweather hurt in car accident

LAS VEGAS, June 8. (Reuter): Roger Mayweather, who narrowly retained his World Boxing Council super lightweight title on Monday night, escaped serious injury yesterday when the car he was driving collided with another car, police said.

Mayweather was taken to sunrise hospital here where a spokesman said he was being treated for cuts and bruises "but did not need to be seriously injured."

It was not immediately clear whether anyone else was injured in the accident or whether any charges would be brought against the 29-year-old fighter or the other driver.

Kenyan squad

NAIROBI, June 8. (Reuter): World champions Billy Konchellah, Paul Kipkoech and Douglas Wakihuri head a strong Kenyan athletics team for the Seoul Olympics.

Marshall to rest before second Test

NOTTINGHAM, England

June 8. (Reuter): West Indies main strike bowler Malcolm Marshall is to rest in an effort to recover from injury before the second cricket Test against England starting at Lord's on June 16.

Marshall could bowl only five overs before leaving the field for treatment to a side injury on the fifth and final day of the first Test yesterday. The Barbadian took six for 69 and scored 72 in the first innings of the drawn match.

West Indies captain Viv Richards said: "He is suffering from soreness in his ribs. He was hit originally while batting against Wasim Akram in the Pakistan series earlier this year.

Affected

"Malcolm was feeling it a little bit in the first innings and we knew this morning that he would not be able to go flat out."

"We wanted to bowl him in short spells and it was very disheartening for us not to be able to use him fully today. But it's a big if that it would have affected the outcome."

"I don't think it is very serious. He won't play against Lancashire in our next match and he just needs some rest. A couple of days off should do the trick."

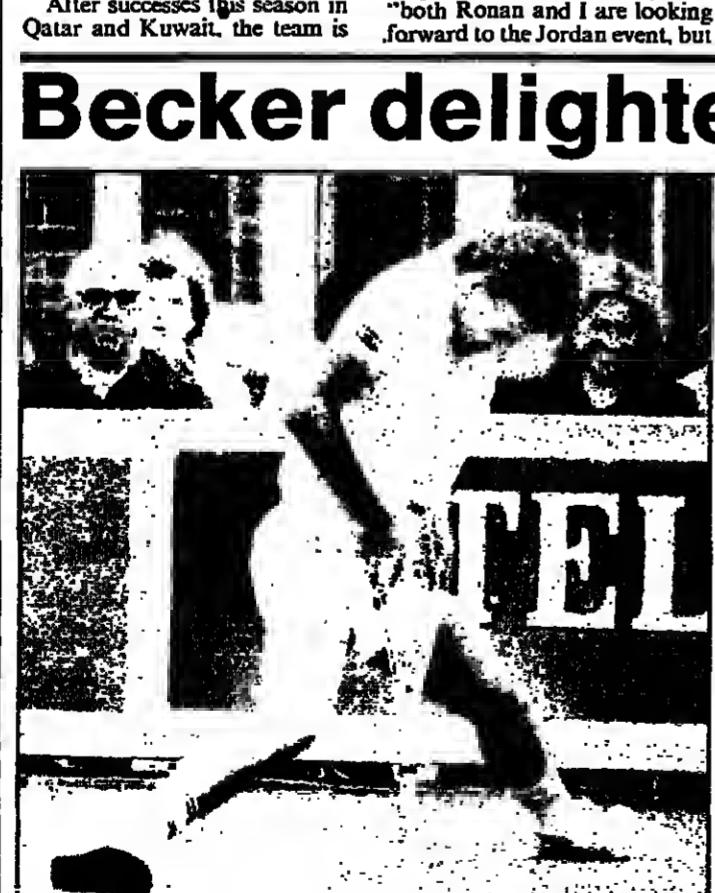


Marshall: injured

Graham Gooch scored 146 as England forced a draw, and Richards praised the opener's hattin. "It was a wonderful innings, very responsible and very cultured," he said.

Richards added: "We lost too much time in this Test to the weather but I have felt encouraged by coming here after losing the limited overs series 3-0 and getting England 203 behind on first innings. I think it is a plus for us."

Becker delighted to be back on grass



Connors playing to the spectators during his match with Purcell. (Reuter wirephoto)

LONDON, June 8. (Reuter): Boris Becker trod delightedly on a grass court for the first time in almost a year yesterday when he began plotting his campaign for a third Wimbledon title.

The West German tamed Australian Charlton Eagle 6-1 6-3 in the first round of the London Grasscourt Championship at Queen's Club, the traditional warm-up for Wimbledon which begins on June 20.

"It's a good feeling to be back on the surface where you enjoyed your greatest moments, your greatest victories," added Becker, twice winner at Queen's and Wimbledon champion in 1985 and 1986.

"Unknown

Becker's last match on grass was in the second round at Wimbleton last June when his two-year reign ended stunningly against unseeded Australian Peter Doohan on number one court.

For Doohan, beaten by unknown Canadian Chris Pridham here on Monday, little has gone right since, a fact he acknowledged when the two men met at Queen's yesterday.

"We've talked a number of times since that day last year."

Reflecting on his defeat against Doohan which began his sight but important slide from second to his current world ranking of seventh, Becker went on: "My Wimbledon run had to end, it was only a question of time."

"Even Ivan Lendl is not invincible on clay as we saw in Paris. It was better that I lose at Wimbleton last year when I was 19 than after I'd won four successive championships."